

# THE GATEWAY

volume XCIV number 36 • the official student newspaper at the university of alberta • www.gateway.ualberta.ca • thursday, 3 march, 2005



**SU ELECTIONS COMING YOUR WAY!** Voting begins 9 March, but who will you vote for? In today's issue, find out information on the candidates for VP (academic), VP (student life), VP (operations and finance), and the Board of Governors representative. The candidates, going clockwise and starting on the far left, are Mathieu Johnson, Justin Kehoe, Carolyn Nowry, Jason Tobias, Adam Cook, and Shawna Pandya. Check out their Q&As on pages 3–5. Watch for president, VP (external) and referendum Q&As coming next issue to a Gateway rack near you.

LEANNE FONG, "VOTE" LOGO COURTESY OF THE STUDENTS' UNION

## Quantum computer offers safer data transfers

ROBIN COLLUM  
News Writer

Canadian information technology got a boost this year with the launch of the University of Calgary's Institute for Quantum Information Science, which will focus on developing faster and more secure ways of communicating information.

The Institute for Quantum Information Science (IQIS) will apply the principles of quantum physics to computing in order to more securely encode and transfer information.

"The goal of the institute is to create a framework for conducting outstanding quantum information research in all the major areas, including computer science, theoretical physics, experimental physics, and technology," said institute director Dr Barry Sanders.

Sanders said that using the principles of quantum physics to send information electronically has a number of benefits over the current method of information exchange. Currently, information is sent through computers in strings of zeroes and ones, which are decoded again at their destination.

This system, used for phone lines, the Internet, and many other forms of electronic communication, has been largely successful so far, but he says it has some disadvantages.

**"The goal of the institute is to create a framework for conducting outstanding quantum information research in all the major areas, including computer science, theoretical physics, experimental physics, and technology."**

**DR BARRY SANDERS,  
DIRECTOR, INSTITUTE FOR  
QUANTUM INFORMATION SCIENCE**

PLEASE SEE: COMPUTERS • PAGE 2

## U of A President receives Order of Canada

HANNA NASH  
News Writer

After a decade as president of the University of Alberta, Dr Rod Fraser has been appointed to one of Canada's highest honours, the Order of Canada.

The prestigious award is given out twice a year by the Governor General to Canadians who have made significant contributions to their communities.

In the first week of February, Fraser was named as an Officer of the Order of Canada for his contributions to education.

Fraser was nominated by his peer, Arthur Kroeger, who has also been appointed to the Order and is a U of A alumnus.

Kroeger said he was motivated to nominate Fraser after watching the success of the University under Fraser's leadership.

"I was very impressed with his record during the past ten years of his time at the U of A," said Kroeger. "I thought that Rod Fraser was an excellent candidate for the Order of Canada—he's a very high-energy president and has done a lot. He's made the U of A a leader in terms of research.



NICOLE WOOD

**"QUIETLY HAPPY"** Rod Fraser was recognized for contributions to education.

He's also gone on visits to countries like Mexico and China to promote internationalism, and has worked hard to recruit Aboriginal students to the U of A."

In addition to knowing Fraser through academic circles, the two actually grew up in neighbouring towns in Alberta, though they did not

meet one another until well into their University careers.

Although Fraser's appointment to the Order of Canada was two years in the making, as Kroeger nominated him in 2003, he was surprised when he received news of the award right before Christmas.

PLEASE SEE: FRASER • PAGE 2

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## Attack of the killer posters

They come every March to molest your eyes. They are the SU election posters. Our critics pick out the worst.

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## Going for gold

The volleyball Bears and Pandas head to their respective national championships this weekend.

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## THE GATEWAY

thursday, 3 march, 2005  
volume XCIV number 36

Published since 21 november, 1910  
Circulation 11 000  
ISSN 0845-356X

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THE GATEWAY is published by the Gateway Student Journalism Society (GSJS), a student-run, autonomous, apolitical and not-for-profit organization, operated in accordance with the Societies Act of Alberta.

THE GATEWAY is proud to be a founding member of the Canadian University Press.

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The Gateway is created using Macintosh computers, Union Powerbook 1500 flatbed scanner, and a Nikon Super Cool Scan optical film scanner. Adobe Design is used for layout. Adobe Illustrator is used for vector images, while Adobe Photoshop is used for raster images. Adobe Acrobat is used to create PDF files which are burned directly to plates to be mounted on the printing press. Text is set in a variety of sizes, styles, and weights of *Futura*, *Kayaker*, *Joanna*, and *Arima*. The Masthead is the Gateway's sister paper. The Gateway's games of choice are RFF and System Shock 2.

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## Quantum institute to boost Alberta economy

COMPUTERS • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"[With conventional computers] there are limits to how much security we can get, and there are limits to the certain types of problems we can solve," explained Sanders.

Quantum computing involves sending pieces of information on a sub-atomic scale, which are transformed into readable computer code at their destination.

Essentially, quantum computing sends information in smaller packages, faster and more securely than conventional means.

"Quantum physics gives us a different basis, which is kind of like having all possible information coexisting at the same time," Sanders said.

He added that the application of quantum physics to computing may create a way of sending information without any risk at all of it being intercepted before reaching its destination.

Developing secure communication with quantum computing would have a huge impact on almost everything that people do with computers. E-commerce—commerce done via the Internet—would become much safer, for instance.

Bill Rogsen, a graduate student at the U of A who has applied to his PhD at IQIS, believes that the institute will be of great benefit to quantum computing in Alberta.

"It's desirable because if anyone does implement quantum computing, it would be good to have an institute here that knew what was going on,"



GO-GO GADGET COMPUTER Bill Rogsen is excited for quantum capabilities.

Rogsen said.

Researchers also believe that the project will benefit Canada.

"Canada-wide, we don't stand on our own. We rely on the US to provide us with information security, which has loopholes. It'd be nice as a country if we knew that we were secure," added Rogsen.

The IQIS could also be economically advantageous to Alberta. The institute has already established partnerships with different companies that are interested in quantum information technology.

Sanders believes the IQIS will be quick to produce results.

"The goal of having perfectly secure communication—that one is

deliverable over the next few years," he said.

Scientists at the IQIS also hope to eventually determine how a quantum computer might be built.

A quantum computer would be able to easily read any information being sent using current information encryption methods, making any information sent in classical ways vulnerable.

"A quantum computer would be like a nuclear bomb to the Internet. Our whole basis for e-commerce security would be wiped out," said Sanders.

"We are working on quantum computing more to study the threat of it than to create a quantum computer."

## President unaware of nomination

FRASER • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

In fact, Fraser didn't know who nominated him for the Order until 15 February, when he read an article about his nomination on ExpressNews.

"Arthur Kroeger has been a strong supporter of the U of A," said Fraser. "He has been a very close advisor to us as we tried to move our agenda, and made an effort to talk to people in Ottawa about supporting the U of A."

This award is especially significant to Fraser, as a position as an Officer in the Order is an extremely sought-after rank; only 64 living citizens may be appointed in one year.

"I was quietly very happy. I never received anything [like] this," he said.

As an award recipient, Fraser will attend a ceremony at Rideau Hall in Ottawa, which will be nationally broadcasted. But for Fraser, this award isn't solely about his own work; it is also indicative of the U of A's successes.

"I think that we are just doing some fantastic things here at the U of A. It's nice when somebody outside the province, and outside our daily work says that something that's being done here is really valuable not just for the U of A community, and not just for the Alberta community, but for all of Canada."

## U of A students plans fundraiser to build Bangladesh hospital

MEGHAN POTKINS  
News Writer

The U of A chapter of the Golden Key International Honour Society is raising funds for the construction of a much-needed women and children's hospital in Bangladesh.

According to the World Bank, 60 per cent of Bangladeshis, or roughly 80 million people, have no access to modern healthcare. Additionally, the organization claims that in the areas of malnutrition and deaths resulting from childbirth, Bangladesh ranks among the highest in the world.

"It's meant to be a sort of health-care and health-education centre for women and children mostly," said Patricia Gongal, the president of the society's local chapter.

"It'll have a sort of garden area that doubles as a classroom for nutrition information."

To raise the money, the U of A Golden Key chapter is planning a dinner fundraiser to be held for 12 March. The idea for the fundraiser came from event organizer and society member Jeehan Chowdhury, a medical student who spent last summer working at a government hospital in Bangladesh.

"The majority of the patients I [saw] were children with totally preventable diseases like rubella syndrome, for which we are vaccinated against in Canada, as well as vitamin-A deficiency or malnutrition," said Chowdhury.

He added that many of these children were permanently blind or deaf by the time they entered the hospital, due to the effects of these conditions.

"I left Bangladesh wanting to do something to give back for all that I have been so fortunate for, and this fundraiser is the product of that motivation," he said.

According to Gongal, the evening

will be a classy affair, geared at preparing students for business functions they may attend in the future.

**"It's meant to be a sort of healthcare and health-education centre for women and children mostly."**

PATRICIA GONGAL,  
CHAPTER PRESIDENT,  
GOLDEN KEY HONOUR SOCIETY

"We are having a professional etiquette coach in for a presentation on things like which fork is which, which way to pass things and how to be a good dinner guest," said Gongal.

The three-course meal will be followed by a host of classy activities.

"We're having a silent auction and a fashion show which will show business-formal versus casual, semi-formal and formal wear," she said.

She added all of the funds raised will go toward building the hospital. "We're not taking anything off the top," she said.

The fundraiser is supported by local businesses from Whyte Avenue and HUB Mall in the silent auction, and retailers in West Edmonton Mall for the fashion show.

But in spite of this support, Gongal remarked on the reluctance in the community to donate after the outpouring of support for the tsunami relief effort.

"Some people are like, 'I already gave to the tsunami and therefore I've already done my good deed for the year,'" said Gongal.

"Obviously that's an important cause, but don't forget about everything else."



## STREETERS

Compiled and photographed  
by Chloé Fedio and Caitlin  
Crawshaw.

The annual Students'  
Union elections are just  
around the corner.

Will you vote in next  
week's election?



Brett Bodeux  
AgFor III

I don't usually, but I might this year because I want to get more involved on campus. I vote in the federal and provincial elections but not usually in Students' Union elections. It is important, though.



Kim Ives  
AgFor III

Yes, because I like to pretend to make a difference. I vote every year.



Jason Gordy  
Science IV

Absolutely. I'm a firm believer that something in the University needs to be changed and that certain people who are on the ballot have the ability and the constitution to do it. Voting is important because we're a democracy and as students we have to grow into society and this is an excellent place to start.



Kelsey Smith  
Science I

No, I'm not going to vote because I don't have enough information and I don't have the time to go to these rallies.

## VPA candidate advocates for quality academics

ROSS PRUSAKOWSKI  
News Writer

Academics is key for the Students' Union's vice-president (academic), whose portfolio focuses on student learning experiences. This year, a single candidate, Mathieu Johnson, is running for the position.

**1** The University plans on reducing the English requirement for first-year students. What do you think of the plan and how should the SU be involved?

The reason that the plan was brought up is a little suspect. It's mostly to try and save the English department some money. The plan isn't completely unreasonable; most major universities in Canada have half the required number of English credits we do. But, the SU needs to keep its eyes on how the plan is implemented and make sure that it isn't reducing the quality of education ... and I don't think it has to.

**2** Should SUB remain as a 24-hour study space?

I like the idea, but it depends on the results of the pilot project. ... I know people who go to other universities and they are appalled at the U of A's lack of 24-hour study

spaces. I think the idea definitely has merit, but I would have to look at the review of the pilot project when it comes out.

**3** What would be your biggest specific goal as VP (academic), and how would you go about accomplishing it?

My major goal is to help create faculty associations that are better suited to academic advocacy. Right now, the major academic advocate for students on campus is almost solely the SU. This is largely ineffectual because the faculty [level] is where a lot of policy is created and we need to start creating student advocacy that mirrors University bureaucracy.

**4** The University switched to a four-point grading system last year. How would you create a new and better grading system using only coloured beads?

Coming from a science background, I tend to think of colours in terms of light wavelengths. So, I would have a GPA scale that corresponds to the wavelength of the bead colour, with the higher the number [being] the better, starting with the ultra-violet and working your way down to red.

## VPOF candidate promises to spend student money carefully

ROSS PRUSAKOWSKI  
News Writer

Administrative and financial aspects of the Students' Union are the focus of the vice-president (operations and finance) portfolio. This year, lone wolf Jason Tobias is running for the position.

**1** More than a year after the merger of the U of A and Augustana, it is unclear which fees Augustana students will pay. How do you see the SU expanding its dedicated fees to Augustana?

If you look at most of our services, they are focused on [the U of A] campus and focused mainly in SUB. Is it fair that [Augustana students] pay full fees like a student on the main campus would pay? That still needs to be examined. I've never actually been to Augustana and seen what they have there. Presumably, they have some infrastructure that their SU operated before the merger, so it would probably be in our best interest to bring that into the infrastructure we already operate rather than trying to reinvent the wheel there.

**2** Are there any areas within the SU budget where you believe money is being misspent? Why?

I think there are some places where we offer services that the U of A already offers. An example off the top of my head would be the Academic Guidance Centre. All of the departments and faculties have their own academic advisors, so do we really need to be offering a virtually identical service to one the University already basically runs? I

don't think so. I don't think the SU is playing fast and loose with student money, but I think [they] sometimes delude themselves of the importance that they play in students' lives. We have to be able to provide a damn good reason to be asking students for more money, because in general, the average student doesn't know where the money is going.

**3** The VP (operations & finance) currently sits on the Boards of Directors of a number of independent groups, including the Gateway Student Journalism Society, the First Alberta Campus Radio Association and the Alberta Public Interest Research Group. What is the role of the VPOF on these boards, and are there any initiatives that you would like to undertake on them if elected?

When the debate on Gateway autonomy came up, the big worry was that it is an organization receiving funds from the SU, and the concern ... at the time was how responsible was it to students to just hand this money over. There's a reason these bodies are independent from the SU and why they aren't directly tied to the SU. I think my role on those boards would be to make sure that people aren't playing fast and loose with students' money and keeping out of the business of running APRG or CJSR because there are people doing that, and it's not part of my job to step in and tell them how to do that.

**4** Please answer the following skill testing question: (5 x 5) / 3.14 x 16 + (3 - 14) =

$$\frac{25}{3.14} \times 16 + (-11) = \frac{400}{3.14} - 11 \approx 127.4 - 11 = 116.4$$

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# BoG candidates ready to take on the University

ROSS PRISAKOWSKI  
News Writer

The student elected to this position, along with the Students' Union president, sits on the Board of Governors, the body that governs the conduct, management, and control of the University. Together they battle with the administration over the tuition situation. This year, Adam Cook and Shawna Pandya are looking for a seat at the big table.

**1** The undergraduate Board of Governors (BoG) representative position is a relatively unknown position among students. What ideas do you have to make it better known and more representative of students' opinions on BoG issues?

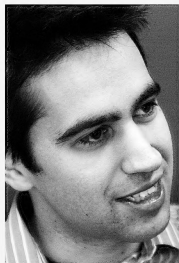
**Adam Cook:** I would like to work closely with the Students' Union and the SU president to really make sure [students know] what the BoG is as well as what it controls and oversees, because at the end of the day it controls University tuition.

With the resources of the SU, there is a much greater ability to communicate with students and to get out there and figure out what students want through surveys and consultation forums.

As a single person, it would be hard for me to get out [and do this], but with the resources of the SU, the other student BoG representatives and the SU president, I believe we can really get out and talk to students one on one, and really get

students to know what's going on at the BoG level and let us know what's going on at the student level, so we can bring that stuff to the Board of Governors.

**Shawna Pandya:** This is something I mention in my platform. I hope to hold numerous consultation forums over the next year because I can't really represent students unless I know what they are thinking. Students really need to know what's going on at the BoG because the decisions made there are so important.



ADAM COOK

**2** The most important thing the BoG representative does is vote for or against proposed tuition increases. What arguments would you bring to the BoG table

against an increase? Are there new strategies you'd introduce?

**Cook:** The arguments don't change every year. The arguments are that tuition increases so the students can't afford it, and accessibility is decreasing. We need to make sure that students are able to get into university without the financial barriers of tuition.

These unfortunately haven't worked from year to year; the BoG approved a tuition increase in January. Ultimately, the University is concerned with its bottom line, and I would rather work at the budget time, as opposed to the tuition time, to figure out ways we can save the University money.

It's really the budget that comes down in March that will determine how much we pay in tuition every year. I would work with the Students' Union and their resources to make sure that all the money spent at the university level is actually needed.

I know there are a lot of things out there that ... aren't really necessary, and we can be rolling back [the costs] so at the end of the day it hopefully translates into tuition dollars back into students' pockets.

**Pandya:** Next year it's going to be a really interesting argument because we have the tuition freeze in place and it will provide us with a situation where we will be arguing for a longer-term solution and maybe asking the board to help us lobby the government for a longer-term solu-

tion. I think we also need to push the fact that the Alberta economy is really dependent on people with postsecondary [education].

**3** How do you see the role of the BoG representative as differing from that of the Students' Union president on the Board of Governors?

**Cook:** I believe the BoG representative provides another face for students and that while the SU president is obviously the face for all of the students there, the BoG rep is there to provide one more seat, one more argument.

Ultimately, the SU president and the BoG rep need to work in tandem to ensure that they are coming at the board with a clear strategy to get the best deal for students.

It would be my goal to really work closely with the Students' Union president so I can take as much BoG stuff off their plate [as possible], so they can really concentrate on the workings of the SU and the other things the SU president needs to focus on.

**Pandya:** The Students' Union executive is bound by SU policy. So, while the president is bound by a policy saying they can't vote for a tuition increase or lobby for anything other than a freeze, it might be different if the BoG rep sees that there could be benefits to students. The president is bound by policy while the BoG [rep] isn't, so we get to argue from a very different perspective than they do.



SHAWNA PANDYA

When you only have two undergraduate spots on a board of 20, it's absolutely vital that you communicate with your partner in crime, because if you know what the other person is going to say you can bring a different argument and have them complement each other.

**4** How many BoG reps does it take to change a light bulb and why?

**Cook:** Eleven, because that's 50 per cent plus one of the Board of Governors' composition, and that's the majority required to make any changes at the BoG level.

**Pandya:** It would take one, because the BoG representative is just that amazing.

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## VPSL candidates want to reform position

ROSS PRUSAKOWSKI  
News Writer

The fun and activities provided by the SU throughout the year like WOW and Orientation couldn't be possible without the vice-president (student life). This year Carolyn Nowry and Justin Kehoe are vying for your votes.

**1** Campus bars have been struggling, despite an attempt at revitalization this year. What do you think should be done to make them popular with students?

**Carolyn Nowry:** I think the number one thing is absolute promotion. I think a lot of events happen at the Powerplant and RATT that people don't know about. One way that this can be done is by putting out a newsletter of what's going on or just advertising more; you never see posters around campus about what's going on at the bars. The other thing is that I think the events have to be better and I think that the VPSL really comes into play in planning those events and promoting them. The Powerplant is really struggling on weekends and Friday nights, and I think that's because they're trying to sell it as a club and I don't think you can do that. If I were VPSL, I would try to make it more of a pub atmosphere and run events like name that tune and karaoke, which I know is already being done at RATT. The other thing is to get student groups and athletics involved more.



LEAHNE FONG

CAROLYN NOWRY

**Justin Kehoe:** The bar revitalization this year has shown some results in the recent period. I don't think that the revitalization process is a one-year fix. What we have to do is try and increase our marketing, which has been accomplished over the last few months with Crush on Fridays.

What we need to do is target our core market, which is students who don't have a lot of money and if we're going to be charging them cover to get in the bars, that's not an acceptable method of trying to get more people to come into the bars. The VPSL needs to make sure that

there is a revitalization not just in the furniture but in our programming as well. With our live programming on Saturday nights I'd like to see once a month where we save up some money from the other weeks and bring in a bigger band that more people will know and want to come out and see.

So, the overall strategy needs to be marketing, affordable pricing and bringing in programming and events that students want to see.

**2** It has been suggested that the position of VP (student life) is poorly conceived and ambiguously defined. One recent VPSL went so far as to recommend the elimination of the position. What is your view of the position? Should it be redefined? If so, how?

**Nowry:** I think that this portfolio is evolving and that this is one of the most exciting parts of the position. I think that it's evolving into this position that can really advocate for students on a non-academic level. I'm talking about parking, security, residences and really getting out there and advocating for students on those issues. I really think that's the direction the position is headed and I really think that's the direction I want to see it go, taking an active advocacy role for students.

**Kehoe:** I don't necessarily agree that the position should be abolished. I think that out of all the Executive positions it is the one that is most relevant to students on a day-to-day basis. The others do a lot of really important work for students, but there isn't that connection there. Student life is where we're going to have the events that students want to go out and see; they're not going to go to the political events where we're trying to get media, but they go to WOW, they go to Antifreeze, they get involved through student groups and find their connection to the University.

So, there is a lot in the student life portfolio that I think is really relevant and important. I have found that the position is quite broad and almost any issue that is important to students can be applied to student life. So what that means is that the VPSL will be working together with a lot of the other executives. If elected, I would take into consideration the recommendations of previous VPSLs and to try analyze the portfolio and see if it can be re-aligned and refocused to better serve students.

**3** Parking is always a problem around campus and is a big part of student life when it comes to campus. What would you like to see done about it?

**Nowry:** There are two problems with parking. One is that parking rates go up every year and this campus has such a large commuter population that the increases are

unfeasible for everyone. The other problem is that there's not enough short-term parking, like when you want to come to campus for 15 minutes or half an hour. We're not going to convince the administration in a short time to lower parking costs because that's one thing they can easily jack up the prices on when the University's operating budget keeps falling. So, what parking requires is a multi-year lobbying campaign by the Students' Union. That's one place I think the VPSL could really advocate for students and take the role to start the campaign.



LEAHNE FONG

JUSTIN KEHOE

**Kehoe:** The VPSL isn't currently a member of the board where parking issues are dealt with, so what it comes down to is the VPSL doing the research and groundwork and working through the SU president to try and get things done. I would be opposed to sacrificing campus green space for the sake of paving things over to expand parking. I think what we need to work with the assets that we have, expanding our current multi-level parkades like what was done with Windsor Car Park.

Another thing that needs to be looked at is the parking meters. I would like to see an investigation into the parking meters and see if we could have free parking outside of peak hours so a student could be parking on campus for free.

**4** Since others have talked about eliminating the position, which SU Exec position would you eliminate and why?

**Nowry:** I think it would be president. Although I know that the president is a great person to have as a figurehead and a leader, I think that a lot of the vice-president portfolios run by themselves anyway.

**Kehoe:** I think it would be the Board of Governors representative. The SU is allotted two seats on the Board of Governors. We could arrange the portfolios so the VP (academic) [sits] on the Board of Governors with the president so we can eliminate those Kotorych-types.

## Know something we don't?

We like to think we know a lot of things, but since God smote us last week for our fantastical hubris, our omnipotence has waned. So we need your help:

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## Students' Council & GFC Nominations

Nomination packages are now available for Students' Council and General Faculties Council elections. Students' Council is the highest governing body of the Students' Union, and General Faculties Council is the highest academic governing body of the University. There are a number of seats available:

### Ag/For/Home Ec.

2 SU Seats  
1 GFC Seat

### Arts

9 SU Seats  
8 GFC Seats

### Business

3 SU Seats  
3 GFC Seats

### Education

4 SU Seats  
5 GFC Seats

### Engineering

4 SU Seats  
4 GFC Seats

### Faculté Saint-Jean

1 SU Seat  
1 GFC Seat

### Law

1 SU Seat  
1 GFC Seat

### Medicine and Dentistry

1 SU Seat  
2 GFC Seats

### Native Studies

1 SU Seat  
1 GFC Seat

### Nursing

2 SU Seats  
1 GFC Seat

### Open Studies

2 SU Seats

### Pharmacy

1 SU Seat  
1 GFC Seat

### Phys. Ed and Recreation

1 SU Seat  
1 GFC Seat

### Science

9 SU Seats  
8 GFC Seats

To download a nomination package or to find out more about the positions, please visit the Elections Website or the Chief Returning Officer (Room 3-02K SUB).

The nomination deadline is  
Monday, March 14 at 5:00 PM.

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# Ontario schools wary of rising private debt

CAROLINE THERIAULT  
The Silhouette

HAMILTON (CUP)—With many students incurring record-high debts, universities and colleges across the country are taking a firm stance against mobile phone and credit card companies that target students on campus.

Some postsecondary institutions—like Fanshawe College in London, Ontario—have taken the dramatic step of banning credit card companies from advertising on their campuses altogether. Fanshawe's financial aid office recognized a trend of students reporting significant credit card debt on their bursary applications.

"While [credit card] companies often claim that there are low limits—like \$500—on their student cards, these limits can be increased without warning," said Tracie Long, manager of McMaster University's financial aid office.

"We've had numerous cases of students with very large expenses on their credit cards. Even information on the huge interest costs isn't often supplied to the students up front."

A 2001 study commissioned by the federal government's Millennium Scholarship Foundation found that four out of ten students have accumulated debt on their credit cards, with 24 per cent of those carrying credit card debts up to \$500, and 19 per cent carrying credit card debts of over \$2500.

John McGowan, business manager of the McMaster Students' Union, agreed that credit card debt is a growing concern for many students.

"In my ideal scenario, students should be educated about the debt, instead of sold the debt," he said.

Along with the burden of credit card debt, mobile phones also mean heavy bills for debt-saddled students.

"Cellphones are a much larger problem than students realize," said Long.

"They rope you into three-year contracts, and while \$20 a month doesn't sound bad, often the actual bills are

significantly larger."

According to the National Graduates Survey on Student Debt released by Statistics Canada, students graduating in 2000 had an average government student debt of \$19 500 for a bachelor's degree.

"Forty-five per cent of students graduating with bachelor's degrees had government student loans," said Long.

"Moreover, in 2003/04, McMaster received more than 7400 Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP) applications," Long continued.

### "In my ideal scenario, students should be educated about the debt, instead of sold the debt."

JOHN MCGOWAN,  
BUSINESS MANAGER,  
MCMASTER STUDENTS' UNION

"Approximately 74 per cent of students who applied for OSAP were eligible for funding."

"Postsecondary education can be a large expense, which is why we encourage students to prepare well in advance with their parents for the anticipated cost," said Roberta Hague, vice-president of retail loans at Scotiabank.

"As a starting point, look for free money in the form of scholarships. Then students might use income from part-time or seasonal employment, and turn to their parents for assistance. If these resources don't cover expenses fully, then consider government student loans," said Hague.

"When these options have been exhausted, talk to a banker about the best options they may have available for you to meet your needs."

Although many students resist the idea of having to be saddled with so much student debt after they complete university, Long noted "while the standard repayment schedule for

loans is ten years, 22 per cent of the bachelor's degree graduates had their debt paid off within two years of graduation."

No matter how long it takes to repay, Long recommended that Ontario students apply to OSAP every year.

"It opens up additional opportunities in terms of bursary and work-program assistance. It may also provide an additional source of funding to help meet some unexpected education costs. It will definitely help in terms of establishing realistic budgets for the school year," said Long.

Financial aid officers and bank officials all stress the importance of shrewd budgeting and planning to avoid excessive debt, and to maintain a good credit rating. Long also noted learning to keep accurate financial records now will help students manage their loans when they graduate.

"Protect your credit rating," said Long.

"Never allow loans to go into default; investigate repayment options and interest relief with lenders to keep loans in good standing."

Even though learning to balance a budget and taking on a loan can be difficult, tuition fees and monthly rents are not the only worries that students face in their fight against debt. However, most students have no regrets.

"It's definitely worth every penny," said Michelle Bloomer, an English major.

"I always thought that the whole idea of going to university is to try something new and meet new people."

Jen Hanson, a student at Brock University, emphasized the importance of saving money, especially if a student wants to maintain a social life while away at school.

"When I go out, it's usually planned well in advance and I'm able to save. I also have a separate account for the money I'm saving up for big things," said Hanson.

With files from Mark Quaglia and Mark Kennedy.



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# Contraceptives, antidepressants, acne meds top campus drug plans

JONATHAN WOODWARD  
BC Bureau Chief

VANCOUVER (CUP)—The most-prescribed drugs to students at campuses across Canada are overwhelmingly contraceptives, antidepressants, acne medication and herpes medication.

Topping the lists of drugs prescribed most at McGill University, the University of Saskatchewan and the University of British Columbia are brands like Tri-Cyclen, Marvelon and Allese, while anti-asthma medications and amoxicillin didn't make the top ten in many universities.

**"It's really interesting that oral contraceptives and antidepressants outrank antibiotics ..."**

KRISTIN FOSTER,  
STUDENTCARE.NET/WORKS

"It's really interesting that oral contraceptives and antidepressants outrank antibiotics, the class of drugs more traditionally linked to medicine," said Kristin Foster of Studentcare.net/works, which runs student health plans for 330 university students at 33 schools in Canada and is the provider for the proposed U of A health plan.

At the U of S, the top eight drugs by number prescribed were oral contraceptives. In ninth place was Effexor, an antidepressant, and in tenth place was Nu-Amoxi, an antibiotic.

At UBC, oral contraceptives were ranked first to third, fifth to seventh and ninth. In fourth place was Tylenol with codeine, and in eighth and tenth places were drugs typically used to fight acne.

At McGill, the contraceptives appeared in spots one to four, six, seven and nine. Diane-35, an anti-acne medication, was in the fifth spot, while different prescriptions of Effexor

occupied spots eight and ten.

Each list was compiled by Studentcare.net/works using data from September 2003 to August 2004.

"Let's face it—we're university students. We're at that age. None of this surprises me," said Kevin Keystone, the newly elected finance vice-president for UBC's Alma Mater Society.

The results were similar when examined by their costs: university students spend the most money on birth control. But creeping into the mix at sixth place at UBC and twelfth place at McGill by cost was Valtrex, a herpes medication.

Anthony Di Carlo, a student exec at McGill who oversees the drug plan there, said he thought the Valtrex numbers would be switched. "If the opposite was true, I'd say it was because of the weather," he said.

The results may be a telling indicator of what university students spend their time doing. Because the plan doesn't follow students throughout their lives, it's always a snapshot of a group of people with an average age of 22.5.

"It's hard to make inferences," cautioned Foster.

"We'd like to look at this and say oral contraceptives are up there because students are getting more sex."

"But a lot of reasons for prescribing oral contraceptives are because of acne. A lot of them are doing it for skin care."

Ten years ago, the lists would have been almost exclusively contraceptives, she said. But recently, antidepressants have begun to climb the ladder. It's less an indication that students are more depressed, and more that the medical community is less hesitant prescribing them.

Oral contraceptives are long-term repeat prescriptions, while antibiotics are often avoided by students who thought it out.

"There are students who should be using antibiotics, but aren't," Foster said.

## THE UNIVERSITY DRUG LIST

### A) University of Saskatchewan

- 1 TRI-CYCLEN 21 TABLET\*
- 2 TRI-CYCLEN 28 TABLET
- 3 ALLESSE 21 TABLET\*
- 4 ALLESSE 28 TABLET
- 5 MARVELON 21 TABLET\*
- 6 DEPO-PROVERA 150MG/ML VIAL\*
- 7 MARVELON 28 TABLET
- 8 RATIO-SALBUTAMOL HFA 100MG/DOSE\*\*
- 9 EFFEXOR XR 75MG SR CAPSULE\*\*\*
- 10 NU-AMOXI 500MG CAPSULE\*\*\*\*

### B) University of British Columbia

- 1 TRI-CYCLEN 21 TABLET
- 2 ALLESSE 21 TABLET
- 3 MARVELON 21 TABLET
- 4 TYLENOL W/CODEINE #3
- 5 ALLESSE 28 TABLET
- 6 TRI-CYCLEN 28 TABLET
- 7 RATIO-SALBUTAMOL HFA 100MG/DOSE
- 8 EXTAMPORANEUS MIXTURES
- 9 EFFEXOR 21 TABLET\*
- 10 ACCUTANE 40MG\*\*\*\*\*

### C) McGill University

- 1 ALLESSE 28 TABLET
- 2 TRI-CYCLEN 21 TABLET
- 3 TRI-CYCLEN 28 TABLET
- 4 ALLESSE 21 TABLET
- 5 DIANE-35 2MG/35MCG\*\*\*\*\*
- 6 MARVELON 28 TABLET
- 7 MARVELON 21 TABLET
- 8 EFFEXOR XR 75MG SR CAPSULE
- 9 RATIO-SALBUTAMOL HFA 100MG/DOSE
- 10 EFFEXOR XR 150MG SR CAPSULE

\*Contraceptives  
\*\*Asthma medication  
\*\*\*Antidepressants  
\*\*\*\*Antibiotics  
\*\*\*\*\*Acne medication

## U of M pulls out of CASA

ROBERT KOTYK  
Central Bureau Chief

WINNIPEG (CUP)—The University of Manitoba Students' Union has voted in favour of leaving the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations, the national lobbying group it has been a member of for nine years.

The decision on 10 February came after a review of the SU's national affiliation by its student affairs committee, which recommended in a report the union leave the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA). The motion passed easily, with 24 council members voting in favour, four voting against and one abstention.

According to Rob Marriott, the SU's director of public relations, the council had a variety of concerns about CASA, prompting the decision.

"There were a number of questions raised around how well [CASA] actually represents students nationally," he said.

Joe Kalturnyk, head of the student affairs committee, said CASA's policies had not "matured" enough throughout the group's existence.

"They've been around for nine years, and they're just beginning to become bilingual," he said. "That would be okay if they were a provincial organization ... [but] the fact that they're a national organization ... was a major problem."

Marriott also asserted the council felt the money spent on CASA—some \$42,000 per year—would be better spent elsewhere.

"One of the issues [for] our council was that, for the membership fees that we pay to CASA, the benefits were not there for students," he said.

CASA National Director James Kusie, himself a former vice-president of the U of M's SU, expressed dismay over the council's decision and asserted his group had not been informed of its concerns.

"I'm extremely disappointed, for one thing, that [the SU] did decide to end relations with the organization," he said.

"CASA was never informed of the

motion. There was no communication with the organization at all on any intentions."

Kusie also criticized the student affairs committee's report, saying it did not fully reflect his group.

"It really failed to, in my opinion, provide any concrete examples to back up the claims that are contained within," he said.

However, Kalturnyk said his committee gave enough time and notice to CASA to address their concerns, but CASA's structure made it difficult for students to offer feedback.

"In an organization, if you want to find out what's wrong, talk to your members," he said.

"I don't think this was rushed. I think this was a long time coming, as far as this time last year, and I'm pretty sure that they were aware of what was coming up."

In November, the SU voted to become a prospective member of the Canadian Federation of Students, the other prominent national student lobby group.

However, the policy committee has not yet made a recommendation to the council about becoming a full member of the CFS. Should that recommendation come, a student referendum would take place to decide whether or not to join the group.

Kalturnyk could not say when or if a recommendation would be made to eventually join CFS this year.

Now that the University of Manitoba has dropped out of CASA, Red River College remains the sole postsecondary institution in the province whose student union is a member of the group.

Kusie maintained, however, that representation in Manitoba would not be a problem.

"I think the Red River College Students' Association is a very strong student association in the province," he said.

"I'm not worried ... I just would like to see as many schools around CASA's table as we can possibly have to really engage students in the process of affecting change."



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This contest is open to any U of A student who can string a sentence together, and who isn't currently a Gateway volunteer. Winners will have their writing published, and we'll even throw in some fantastic prizes.

Entries will be judged on creativity and style. Submissions must be original, cannot have been published previously, and will not be considered if they are hateful in nature. Submit your entries to [managing@gateway.ualberta.ca](mailto:managing@gateway.ualberta.ca) or bring them to 3-04 SUB by 18 March, 2005. Contestants may only enter once per category. Please include your name, program and year, student identification number, and e-mail address, and submit hard copies of all photos (this includes negatives and printed versions to accompany digital submissions). Unfortunately, entries will not be returned.

## categories:

- 1 Short Fiction (under 1500 words)
- 2 Really Short Fiction (under 100 words)
- 3 Poetry
- 4 Photography

\*Deadline extended: 18 March, 2005

# THE GATEWAY



## Celebrities don't actually matter

CELEBRITY WORSHIP has become a plague of the masses. This past Sunday showcased one of the biggest celebrity spectacles of the year: the Oscars. The event encapsulates the year-round, ubiquitous splashing of celebrity gossip across all forms of media and lunch-hour chat circles alike.

Why do people care so much about what Benenafah PittsVanDeppDipario ate for breakfast? Or what hairstyle that superstar soccer player is sporting? I have difficulty understanding the groupie mentality or why people buy into the celebrity package being sold. Our North American consumer culture has made fame, power, and "bling" seem so important that our obsession with celebrities resembles a high-school popularity contest.

Now, I agree that there are benefits to a thought-provoking film, a mindless sitcom, an exciting sports match, or an entertaining concert. There is potential to make us think, allow us to escape, take away our stress, help us relax, maybe even derive meaning from popular cultural forms and create our own identities.

But the spectacle and the obsession that follows creates a risk that we will be distracted from things that are more important. Healthy relationships with family, friends, and partners, government scandals, environmental destruction, and gross atrocities get pushed out of our minds when our heads are overflowing with media-induced celebrity nature.

The private lives of the players, actors, and musicians dominate lunch-hour discussions and override meaningful conversations. Perhaps our culture has created a mass of people incapable of communicating beyond a surface level. For some people, the daily happenings of the famous become so all-consuming that they know more about a pro athlete or movie star than their own siblings.

The degree of severity in celebrity worship is reflected in passive acceptance of the dollar amount and worth assigned to what celebrities do and achieve. Why does a professional athlete or movie star get paid millions of dollars for playing one season of basketball or acting in one film? Everyone makes an important contribution to society, but the capital worth is disparate. Think about the person who collects our garbage so we aren't surrounded with our consumer waste or contract diseases from living in filth. Think about the stockperson who keeps your supermarket store shelves stocked so you can buy groceries, have food to survive, and stay healthy, or the person who operates the snowplows so you can get around after a snowfall.

Should that much value be placed on what celebrities do? Do they make a significant difference in the world or improve our lives? Maybe, maybe not—perhaps they make just as much difference as the average person, but celebrities are also given the additional burden and responsibility of being role models and in a constant spotlight. They hold the power to influence the masses. Whether people resist or incorporate popular culture into their lives is to be determined by each of us. But I suggest you try putting down the magazine, turning off the tube, and thinking about what matters in your life and in the world.

LEAH FONG  
Photo Editor

## McMissed the point

TUESDAY'S NATIONAL POST featured a large story on Les Sayer, an Edmonton teacher who proved you could lose weight while eating McDonald's, in an effort to discredit Morgan Spurlock, director of the documentary *Super Size Me*. According to Sayer, Spurlock's film was "centred around an anti-corporate theme," and didn't accurately reflect McDonald's. Sayer, in addition to eating only at McDonald's, took vitamins and averaged an hour of exercise each day—and with that, Sayer missed the point of Spurlock's documentary entirely.

Spurlock was not out to discredit McDonald's—he was out to show what the average North American lifestyle, which includes a lot of fast food and little exercise, can do to you, my friend. If Sayer is a teacher, perhaps Spurlock's next film should deal with the sorry state of North America's education system.

DAVID BERRY  
Opinion Editor



## LETTERS

### Bar revitalization has been a success, Smith

In the 15 February *Gateway*, Steve Smith, as chair of the audit committee, indicated that "The world failure has come up more than a few times" in relation to the bar revitalization project ("SU auditors concerned about Powerplant, RATT success"). As one member of an extensive team who has spent considerable time working on and monitoring this project, I take issue with his indication that the bar revitalization project "hasn't been working at all," because this is far from the truth.

Since the bar revitalization was implemented in September, net profit performance of both bars has improved dramatically. We did lose more money last summer than we did in the previous year. However, this is unrelated to bar revitalization, as it was not implemented until September. I must point out that our bars lose money every summer, and, as such, if we were to only look at financial performance, we should consider whether it would be wise to close all campus bars for the summer months instead of looking at bar revitalization. Currently, we are of the opinion that such establishments should be more than just revenue generators; they should also be social spaces to provide community on campus. If there are concerns over finances, I invite the audit committee to address the \$114 000 deficit that we started with in September instead of implying that bar revitalization has not been working.

To prove that the ongoing improvements through bar revitalization have been working, let me quote you some direct numbers. In the September to December period, the two bars collectively made a profit of \$40 600, compared with a profit of \$20 700 last year. While September's net profit was \$7000 behind last year's level, October profits were just \$1000 behind, the November net profit was \$8000 ahead, and the December net profit was over \$20 000 ahead. The success of the bar revitalization project is very clear, and it is quite evident that there has been significant growth. For these reasons, I am troubled at how Councilor Smith and the audit committee would reach a conclusion that the process has been a failure.

In addition to analysis of monthly profit and loss statements, we have completed extensive analysis of many factors within the bar operations and now know what we must do to address lingering issues and build upon this initial improvement. While we are aware that many campus bars across the country have been suffering in recent years, our bar revitalization process has enabled us to reverse the declining trend and continually build upon it.

Thank you for the opportunity to clarify the issue.

ALVIN LAW  
VP (Operations and Finance)  
Students' Union

### Use your communist head, Phil

It is now a well-known fact how Phil Head cast his vote on the U-pass referendum in last year's elections ("Cars don't hold a candle to the bus, my friends," 1 March). Mr. Head's ludicrous and contradictory article on the advantages of taking the bus over cars is a complete piece of communist propaganda.

Now, there are advantages to using public transportation over having a car—mainly the economic

and environmental savings that a non-car owner experiences—but there are many advantages to having a car that Mr. Head chooses to gloss over or lie about.

Mr. Head mentions there are times, such as leaving the bar or going to get groceries, in which it is not practical to take the bus—his suggestion is to call a cab to have the money you save by not owning a car. Well, the money spent on these cab rides certainly raises a person's transportation cost from \$54, doesn't it? And the fact that taking a cab at some point is even suggested disproves the notion that buses are more convenient. But, alas, by driving a car, I will never experience the "freedom" of waiting for a bus that only comes by at fixed intervals. I guess I will have to suffer the hassle of walking out to my car at any time I want and simply driving.

But while I'm stuck driving a car, Mr. Head can use the time on the bus for more constructive purposes such as studying. Excellent. But I'm not sure how much of that can be accomplished while standing, something that I have yet to do in my car. And while he spends two hours riding the bus, I can get to where I want to be in less than half the time and accomplish something productive at my final destination, not in a moving vehicle. In order to combat the pollution caused by my vehicle I engage in a little something called carpooling. It isn't as environmentally friendly as the bus, but it does help.

Have fun being a bus boy, Mr. Head—I'll wave as I cruise by.

GRAEME SOUTHWOOD  
Arts II

### Don't besmirch humanism, Turczyk

In response to Kat Turczyk's

"Humanism to blame for sex-crazed 'Peter Pans' in the 1 March issue of the *Gateway*, your argument commences with a diatribe against men. More specifically, men who will lie, manipulate, and sweet-talk their way into a woman's pants. A lot of "jimmies" exist in the world. They are assholes, and they should be remembered as "swine." No argument there.

The big problem here is relating the obsessive pursuit of sex by these men with humanism. Kat tries to paint humanism as an excuse invoked by men to justify their reckless and emotionally destructive pursuit of pussy. What Kat misses is that these men don't need an excuse; the desire to fuck does not need to be justified to them. Do you think "jimmy" has any clue whatsoever about what humanism entails?

Humanism as a movement emerged in the 14th and 15th centuries throughout Europe. It was a substantial progress towards the values adopted during the Enlightenment.

To quote Microsoft Encarta, humanism is an "attitude [that] emphasizes the dignity and worth of the individual. A basic premise of humanism is that people are rational beings who possess within themselves the capacity for truth and goodness." Does this sound like the philosophy of men like "jimmy"? I don't think so; humanism is about caring for people, understanding emotions, and trying to make the world a better place. Humanism is not about self-justification for sex.

If you want to rant about men being assholes, please, be my guest. But do not degrade something like humanism when you're doing it.

ERIK LIZER  
Arts III



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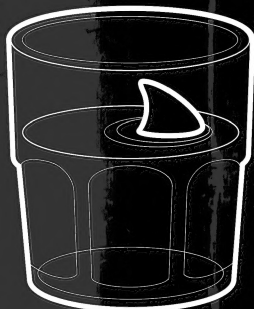
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MORE LETTERS • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

### Requiem for Thompson

I was very pleased to see the Gateway article ("Gonzo, but not forgotten," 1 March) focus on the brilliance of Hunter S. Thompson's writing and the changes he brought to journalism, rather than the circumstances surrounding his death and his lifestyle choices—even though they're interesting, to say the least.

Most people have a favourite book that they can strongly relate to and that embodies their personal beliefs so greatly that it influences every corner of their lives. For myself, that book is *Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas*, by Hunter S. Thompson.

So, with no plans for Reading Week, it seemed an obvious decision to load up the van with six of my like-minded friends and head down to Las Vegas in search of the American dream. We left Friday night, and after many unsuccessful stops in the bare desert countryside in search of jimsonweed and peyote, we arrived Sunday evening in the moral black hole that is Las Vegas. Imagine our surprise as we awoke the morning of 21 February in our dead-hooker-filled hotel room, mildly hung-over after a wonderful night of drinking Singapore slings with mescal on the side, only to turn on the TV to discover that our spiritual mentor, Hunter S. Thompson, had committed suicide with a gunshot wound to the head. We were confused and disoriented, maybe from the drugs and alcohol, but mostly because we were unsure how to continue our Vegas binge knowing that the man who had given me better advice than my parents was dead.

What did all of this mean? How could we go on? What would Jesus do? Not even Thompson himself would know what to do in a situation like that. And so, we dedicated the remainder of our assault on the Vegas strip to Dr. Thompson, and with each Singapore sling, the American dream seemed further and further away.

SHAWN HAGEN  
Science II

### Troughton's views 'obtuse'

Jake Troughton displays a surprisingly obtuse view on the use of different names for men's and women's teams at the University of Alberta in the sports commentary "Pandas lucky to have a name of their own" (8 February).

How often has "separate but equal" applied to matters of equality? Racial segregation in schools doesn't seem to have been the best of ideas in the past, and this is hardly much better now.

Troughton claims "When a school's men's and women's teams share a nickname, the women, without exception, are shunted to second-tier status." While that is likely not entirely true, as I'm sure there is at least one person who thinks of the Pandas before the Golden Bears

when they hear of the U of A basketball team or the rugby team, even with the statement being largely true, that is due mostly to current social trends. Using separate names and mascots for men's and women's teams is not doing anything to change that problem. Rather, it's institutionalizing it, and preventing anything from being done about it.

If different names are such a great idea, why don't we adopt it on a greater level? The women representing our great country in international events shouldn't have to settle for being called "Canadians" along with the men. They should "have a strong, unique identity of their own they can be proud of." While we're at it, why stop at sports? Women in society shouldn't have to deal with being clumped in with men by being called the same old boring word "citizen." I mean, that word used to only apply to men: what women could ever call herself that? It's preposterous! They need that unique, strong name they can identify with. Maybe something with history. I vote "chattel"; that seems in keeping with such a progressive line of thought.

ADAM FERLAND  
Science II

### Turczyk must have been 'jilted'

I can only assume that Kat Turczyk ("Humanism to blame for sex-crazed 'Peter Pans,'" 1 March) was recently jilted by some guy named Jimmy who convinced her, using his guitar-playing skills and stories of his recent trip to Myanmar, to give up her virginity to him; otherwise, why the bitter article aimed at men in general?

Yeah, if only we could travel back in time to medieval France or ancient Greece, where women were in a much better position than they are today. Oh, what I wouldn't give to meet a Troubadour who is "enslaved by passion" for me—oh wait, that's creepy. I think Ms. Turczyk's main problem is the type of men she's been spending time with. You don't need to go to medieval Europe to find men who will treat you with respect; you just need to stop spending so much time at The Standard.

JILLIAN BURTONSON  
Arts III

*Letters to the editor should be dropped off at room 3-04 of the Students' Union Building, or e-mailed to [opinion@gateway.ualberta.ca](mailto:opinion@gateway.ualberta.ca). The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libelous, or otherwise hateful in nature.*

*Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words, and should include the name, student identification number, program, and year of study of the author, to be considered for publication. Anonymous submissions will not be considered.*

### Dave Alexander's TOP TEN

Reasons you quit your classic metal cover band

- 10 Black leather hat, vest and fanny pack weren't commanding the respect they used to.
- 9 Snagged a sweet offer from a KISS cover band with a much bigger makeup budget and non-allergenic fake blood.
- 8 One too many fights over changing the "cks" to an "x" on the tour shirts.
- 7 Got sick and tired of giving testes the old twist 'n' yank in order to reach the high notes on "Turbolover."
- 6 Mullet fatigue, plain and simple.
- 5 Needed bass strings to reattach the bumper on your Camaro.
- 4 Can't wait for all the awesome bathroom stall blowjobs that surely await you on the classic metal cover band reunion tour.
- 3 You took the hint when the rest of the group airbrushed you off the side of the tour van.
- 2 Was listening to Whitesnake and got a little too wrapped up in the lyrical drama of "Here I Go Again."
- 1 Couldn't even play the Def Leppard songs after the metal press at work took your other arm.



# I know you ladies want to look your best, but for the love of God, take off the freakin' heels



DERREK GREBSKI

I don't mean to stan you here, but I'm no fashion magnate. No, it's true. Most of what I own has spent at least some of its life hanging from the racks at Value Village, and the rest is generally promotional garments provided by companies lucky to stay in business long enough to declare bankruptcy. But hey, with educational costs approaching the annual budget of NASA, practicality comes first.

One would think that being in such a state precludes me from being able to criticize the dress of others. In such a case, one would, of course, be an idiot. And so, I ask you: what is the story with these women wearing three-inch, spike-heel shoes to school?

Oh sure, each fall brings an endless string of dewey-eyed newbies who have heard the legends of university being the greatest social experience in the known universe. Even greater than Superbowl Sunday at Hooters. Much greater. Inevitably, members of both sexes pull out all the stops for the first while in hopes of securing a spot among the social elite, until the truth of 8am lectures and the harrowing six-mile length of HUB mall offer a stern, yet loving, dose of reality.

By November, ratty jeans and baggy T-shirts large enough to hide a Coke

machine become the norm, and the majestic beast of misplaced fashion slumps into its well-deserved hibernation for another year. However, as in any successful business, there are always those who don't get the memo. Here we are, in early March, and I still see examples of this monstrosity tripping higher and you through the halls. There is no way that can be comfortable.

**Despite the predominant view in virtually every rap video produced since the mid-18th century, a vast majority of guys are happily willing to accept the fact that women don't generally look like they just staggered out of "Da Club."**

Actually, I know it's not comfortable. I'm not going to lie to you, kind reader—I have, after roughly four gallons of beer, tried on a pair of these shoes. Needless to say, it's like trying to shove a whole loaf of bread in one side of the toaster, and I would rather chew on tinfol than take one step in these diabolical instruments of torture. Frankly, I would have to set out now in order to be on time for my first September class wearing

those monstrosities.

So, why? Maybe I'm just not "hip" or "with it" when it comes to fashion trends, but I don't often find myself wishing to meet a woman who subscribes to the ancient art of Chinese foot-binding, and as such, I don't really dig these affairs at the best of times.

However, I can understand the idea of wanting to be attractive, even at school. God knows that it warms the cockles of my heart to see a healthy example of womanhood mince past, but even I am clever enough to understand that there is a reasonable time and place for everything.

And that place is somewhere else. Despite the predominant view in virtually every rap video produced since the mid-18th century, a vast majority of guys are happily willing to accept the fact that women don't generally look like they just staggered out of "Da Club."

I mean, it's only reasonable, since most guys are willing to wear just about anything to school, as long as it passes the smell test. Oh, it's a shallow world, but I have to believe that there are other things that mean more than teetering around on miniature stilts.

So, allow me to impart some fashion advice: ditch the spike heels and buy yourself a damned pair of comfortable shoes. If you're worried that the man of your dreams will look the other way because you've chosen function over form, he was probably leaning against a Camaro, picking his teeth with an unfolded paperclip anyway, so it's no huge loss.

# Real faith needs real doubt



ANDREW TEAL

away when I saw such an insightful and relevant quote from a practitioner of the fine arts, and I couldn't agree more with his thoughts in this area.

In my experience, there are very few subjects that are demonized as much as doubt in the Christian community. And not just doubt regarding God's existence or the reliability of the faith, but doubt regarding any doctrine that is seen as essential by our self-appointed leaders. If you dare to question the infallibility of the Bible to any degree, you better hope the big guy has the same regard for you that he had for Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego—all three were rescued by God after being thrown into a furnace—because you'll need it.

For some reason, the Christian community struggles to see that without real doubt, we cannot have real faith. It seems to me that we can hardly say that we believe that Jesus was the messiah if we have never even considered the fact that it's possible that he wasn't. Surely we don't really want a faith where the only reason we can give for holding to its claims is that we were told to, and never doubted what we were told.

Without doubt, we will never have exploration, deeper appreciation and understanding, or relevance. Doubt is not something to flee from into the arms of fundamentalism, but something to embrace and engage head on. Until we have dealt with real doubt, our faith cannot be our own. Doubt can lead to deeper faith, just as much as it can lead to losing one's faith—it all depends on how you approach it.

That a fine-arts type realized this other side that those folks on the other side of campus aren't so bad after all—I just might have to stop calling the Timms Centre a toilet bowl.

Anyone who has spent any time in the company of an engineer has undoubtedly, at one time or another, been subject to incessant rants in which we try and use our inefficiency to make our procrastination look like martyrdom. I myself have been guilty of shaking my fist in impotent fury at the physics students in Quad who are earning their degree by practicing kids' games while I struggle through second-order differential equations and harmonic motion in C&B.

Our unremitting need to feel like we're far more hard done by than anyone else sometimes leads us to ignore those contributions from other faculties that can be extraordinarily valuable. Alas, I have sinned in this area in the past against the fine arts students, but after reading the 10 February issue of See Magazine, I am moved to repentance.

See presents an interview with the two creators and performers of a play called *Faithless*. The interview describes a play about the spiritual seeking and questioning of a man who has lost all that he has, but it was the statements from the performers that most caught my attention. Chris Craddock, in discussing some of the issues the play addresses, brings up the issue of doubt in faith. Craddock feels that churchgoers today have greater doubt than ever before, and some retreat into fundamentalism rather than deal with this doubt. I was blown

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# Television: the land of advertising that's turning us into a nation of hens



TIM PEPPIN

I am quickly coming to be of the opinion that passive idleness is being deliberately cultured and tended in our society for much the same reason hens are placed in a coop. Human stupidity, my friends, is in the process of being domesticated. I am reminded of this hypothesis each time that I am subjected to that prattling amalgam of mindless drivel and offensive advertisements that is modern television programming.

Television's big business. Businesses, as a rule, are very shrewd executors of their funds. As such, one need only think of the millions of dollars advertisers are willing to spend on prime viewing slots to realize how incredibly effective and influential a selling tool it actually is.

Networks rely heavily on the advertising dollars of these businesses. Advertisers, in turn, rely heavily on networks to produce programs that will attract and retain large numbers of viewers. It is in both of their best financial interests to have large and regular viewing audiences, not to view the shows, but to view the advertisements. The more ads that are seen, the more product that is sold, and the more profit that trickles into the coffers of each. Programs, then, are reduced to little more than vehicles for advertisements. The medium becomes the message.

There are certain logical consequences of this arrangement which

we see borne out on most private networks. First, a television producer will strive to attract a large audience. This supersedes all other considerations, and is constrained only by legislation and viewer sensitivity. The easiest and most effective way to accomplish this goal is by appealing to the passions, vanities, depravities and vices shared by the largest number of people. Competitive sport, conflict, love-based dramas, comedy, sex, and, most recently, voyeurism through reality TV are the fodder of most television broadcasts, both now and in the past.

Yet as we've seen, the programs themselves form only the lesser half of the partnership. They are important only insofar as they are able to acquire and maintain the attention of the viewer. Like the lure of an anglerfish, they are enticing, yet empty, and serve only to bring the target in range. Advertisers form the second half of the partnership, and it is here that the real battles are fought, and the real harm is done.

Sophisticated advertisers relentlessly research human behaviour in an effort to manipulate it. They often deliberately formulate fictitious "problems" and then immediately offer their product as a solution. They will deliberately promote social insecurity, discontent and unhappiness. They will exaggerate, distort, draw false conclusions and lie. They will market to the old, the young, the healthy and the sick, girls and boys, singles and couples, gay and straight alike. The only reliable judge of their methods is sales and profit.

The result is that those who are exposed to large quantities of television—literally the vast majority of the North American population—often have their norms and values slowly



TV NATION Television slowly sculpts each of its regular viewers into the materialistic ideal.

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: LEANNE FONG

and subtly sculpted into a materialistic ideal. Through years of passive exaltation, many become unwitting or unable to reason critically. Unchecked and unexamined consumption is normalized, which leads to a staggering array of personal and social evils ranging from perpetual dissatisfaction, unreasonable ideals and goals, and overwhelming material competition, to widespread environmental corruption. Just as most businesses do not care to examine the environmental consequences of their products, preferring to treat them as "externalities," so also most advertisers do not care to examine the social consequences of

their advertisements.

So how is it, then, that so few people notice their own exploitation? The answer lies in the ubiquity of television, especially among the young. The television viewers become acclimated so that now, like full-grown hens pecking absent-mindedly at the plucky mixture of grains and feces placed before them, neither wondering nor caring from where or why it comes, they watch, and swallow. And eventually, they don't even notice that it tastes like shit.

So with all this said, does it seem reasonable to conclude that television is responsible for the evils we see in

the world today? Of course not. There is not likely to be a single satisfying causal explanation for the diversity of fucked-up things that surround us. Yet there are new problems that now face us which have never before been known in the world. It does seem reasonable to conclude that television, and more generally advertising, contribute heavily to them.

Bertrand Russell said that the ability to fill leisure time intelligently is the last product of civilization. The majority of us settle instead for vacuous entertainment. You are being used, not entertained. Think about it the next time you turn on the idiot box.

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# Requiem for a dearly departed friend



TREVOR PANAS

Last October, after two days of pedalling my expensive, two-wheeled steed through early winter snow, and watching the sand, snow, and ice eat away at its premium powder-coat paint job and top-of-the-line drive-train components, I decided to buy a "winter bike"—a second-hand cheapie that I could ride and abuse through -30C snowstorms without guilt or fear of financial repercussions.

After a brief search, I managed to find her: a glaze-white 2000 Norco Nitro, sorely in need of some tender loving by someone with patience and know-how. And Nitro did need attention: the rear rim was out of true to the point that the rear brake could not be hooked up; the shifter cables and brake cables were frayed, kinked and cut; the chain was rusted and stiff.

Many of her parts were unusable, and had to be replaced by extras from my collection, but then there was her frame—if ever a piece of metal exuded sex appeal, Nitro's Easton aluminum body did.

We spent the better part of our first night together alone in the garage, my hands carefully working over

her entire length, fixing, testing and tweaking, and by early morning, Nitro had undergone a metamorphosis, the most important part of which was the elimination of all those unnecessary 27 gears and the accompanying shifters, derailleurs and cables they depended on; Nitro had become my first single-speed—a bike with only one gear. It made sense, really: single-speeds are famously reliable, and riding one prevents most drive-train problems that plague winter cyclists.

**Never again would your soft rubber tires gently kiss the ground beneath us, your supple fork soaking up the bumps as our two selves became one.**

Ah, Nitro; the second night, in the throes of our newly discovered passion, we rode from one end of the city to the other, together through freshly falling snow, our energy for one another boundless. What joys I discovered when your 32-15 gear ratio felt so good as we cruised the dirt trails and cold asphalt of this city. You quickly went from being just my "winter bike" to being my secret favourite, and together we unlocked treasures that many never find.

We had our hard times, too. That

unfortunate incident on 82 Ave and 97 Street that resulted in blood-stained clothes, three stitches to the face, and two scars on my left hand that will never completely heal. But it wasn't your fault, Nitro; it was mine. I picked you up gingerly, checked you to see if you were all right and, seeing that you were, said a silent thanks to whoever kept you as such.

But then, Nitro, on Valentine's Day, I left you locked up outside International House in Garneau and walked the rest of the way to campus, because you were having rear-hub trouble. Upon returning that afternoon, I found you gone, the only reminder you had ever been there the cut lock that lay wounded in your place. I scoured the neighbourhood for hours, calling out for you, hoping that whoever had taken you from me had discarded you in a nearby alley or the adjacent river valley, but alas, you were nowhere to be found.

As I made my way home, walking slowly along the same path that we had travelled together just that morning, I reflected on our relatively short, but intensely passionate time together. Never again would your soft rubber tires gently kiss the ground beneath us, your supple fork soaking up the bumps as our two selves became one. We had such big plans, Nitro. A disk-brake conversion this summer, a new wheel set if we could afford it. All lost. But what no one can take is the memories of our time together; I'll always have you. Goodbye, little Nitro, I'll miss you.

# Canadian budget reflective of baby-boom values



AARON BRAATEN

Last week, our glorious leaders in Ottawa doled out their "forgiveness budget," a chicken-leg-in-every-pot strategy aimed at helping people with long memories forget past Liberal indiscretions.

In spite of Finance Minister Ralph Goodale's lofty rhetoric of developing a high-tech, knowledge-based economy, he did very little to help generation debt take a step away from debt servitude and towards financial freedom. If you're a student, and you voted at it, you probably feel pretty silly for being so naive as to think your federal vote actually might have mattered.

Goodale's budget speech serves as a primer for political science students wanting to learn the nuances and methodology of Orwellian new-speak. Goodale promised that "Every penny will be reinvested in core federal programs and services that truly matter to Canadians," and delivered on everything except postsecondary education.

According to an Ipsos-Reid poll of 2000 Canadians released by CTV and the *Globe and Mail*, the top spending priorities of Canadians were, in order of importance: healthcare, postsecondary education, tax cuts for the middle class, debt reduction, daycare, Kyoto and military spending. Somehow, the number-two priority of Canadians was blinkered out entirely.

How do I know Goodale lied to students? Well, for one, his lips were moving. Goodale's speech achieved the upper ranks of hilarity with this

"We are on the forefront of what professor David K Foot of the University of Toronto terms the 'echo' generation—children of the aging post-war baby boomers—the generation that has driven nearly every economic and political agenda of their lifetime simply from the sheer power of their numbers."

zingler: "Today, we build on what has gone before—and for those who will come after—not by making promises, but by making good on promises, by delivering on commitments and by having a sense of the future, of where we want to go and the country we want to build; a competitive, productive 21st-century economy—knowledge-based, technology-driven, highly skilled and excellent by every measure; an inclusive and caring society in which fairness and equality of opportunity are the measures of our progress."

Last June, Prime Minister Martin promised students that he would create a separate transfer to the provinces specifically aimed at restoring the cuts he made to the Canada Health and Social Transfer back when he was finance minister in the '90s. The figure for this transfer, in fact, was somewhere in the range of \$7-8 billion, according to George Soule, national chairperson of the Canadian Federation of Students. Maybe Prime Minister Dithers is actually crazy enough to think that Canadians will fail to see the correlation between tuition increases across Canada and his tenure as finance minister for the last decade.

If, as Goodale claims, "fairness and equality of opportunity are the measures of our progress," he has failed his own criteria as far as postsecondary education is concerned. According to a recently released Statistics Canada study entitled "Participation in post-secondary education in Canada," increased tuition prices have not

deterred entry into postsecondary education for the sons and daughters of lower-income parents.

However, the study points out that the primary determinant of getting an education still seems to be whether or not one's parents have a degree. The Liberals have simply failed to eliminate this obvious social-class barrier.

A lot of the reason why this budget failed us has to do with demographics. We are on the forefront of what professor David K Foot of the University of Toronto terms the "echo" generation—children of the aging post-war baby boomers—the generation that has driven nearly every economic and political agenda of their lifetime simply from the sheer power of their numbers.

So maybe it's not the Liberals who are the culprit, for they are just representatives of a generation that falls to see spending on postsecondary education as an investment. They are willing to reduce the national debt so our government can offer low interest rates to fuel their consumption and investments, yet show little regard for the debts they have devolved to students. They are willing to throw more money at solving their health problems, but don't seem to want to train or certify the doctors that will take care of them. If only they could, as baby Jesus said, "Forgive us our debts"; then, maybe we could forgive them for being so selfish and shortsighted, and forgive ourselves for swallowing even more Liberal vote-bait.

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The Gateway is accepting applications for the position of Editor-in-Chief for the 2005/2006 publishing year. The term runs from 1 May 2005 to 30 April 2006 and pays \$1800/mo. Applicants must plan to be enrolled at the U of A in at least one class per semester for the 2005/2006 school year; must be available to work varying hours; must have computer and layout skills; and will preferably have been a Gateway editor, or possess equivalent leadership and editorial experience.\* Applicants should submit a covering letter, resumé and a portfolio to **Gateway Business Manager (Don Iverson, [biz@gatewayualberta.ca](mailto:biz@gatewayualberta.ca), 492-6669) by noon on Friday 4 March 2005**. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for an interview.

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### PHOTO EDITOR

### DESIGN & PRODUCTION EDITOR

All terms run from 1 May 2005 to 30 April 2006. The full-time paid portion of the job runs from mid-August to the end of April, except Managing Editor who is expected to work full-time from 1 May. Six issues of the Gateway will be produced over the summer months. All line editors will be expected to train on at least two of the six summer issues (unless granted leave by the hiring committee) for an honorarium of \$100/issue. In their full-time capacities, the salaries for each position are as follows: Managing and Senior News will receive \$500 per month; all other line editors will receive \$185\*\* per month. Please note that candidates may apply for no more than two (2) positions, except by special dispensation of the Line Editor Selection Committee. Applicants should submit a covering letter, resumé and portfolio to **Gateway Business Manager (Don Iverson, [biz@gatewayualberta.ca](mailto:biz@gatewayualberta.ca), 492-6669) by noon on Friday 11 March 2005**. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for an interview.

\* Complete job descriptions (subject to change) are available at [www.gatewayualberta.ca/hiring/](http://www.gatewayualberta.ca/hiring/)  
\*\* Pay will be adjusted for CPM over the summer and may increase.

**THE GATEWAY**



# Quit sending me e-mails while you're abroad, you wankers



VANESSA VOSS

Any moment now, my e-mail inbox will be infiltrated yet again by a message from someone I know who's travelling the nether regions of the planet. You know the kind of e-mail I'm talking about: "Hola from Cabos San Lucas! I'm writing to you as I sip cranitis, bask in the 30C sun, and daydream on this white-sand beach." The senders of these noxious e-mails are seemingly always having the time of their lives riding camels in Abu Dhabi, surveying Mt Everest's base camp in Nepal, or having Spaniards fight over who gets to rub exotic tanning oils on their sun-bathed backs on beaches in Ibiza.

The world of leisure travel has always been highly appealing, but now add to the adventure the fact that you can gloat to everyone you're familiar with—including those you've only met once or twice but whose e-mail you happen to have your e-mail address saved on your contact list for such occasions of self-sought glory—and you've got an annoying little trend that is growing as fast as my waistline during final exams.

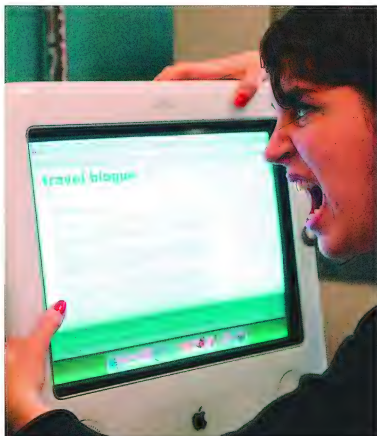
I began to realize the extent of this outbreak of mass e-mail narcissism when I went to Europe last summer. Small Internet access sites have flourished in every nook of the continent. Young student travellers were not as concerned with directions to get to the Sistine Chapel in Rome or the Hofbräuhaus in Germany, but with

where, oh where, the nearest computer connection was, so they could send a note to anyone they'd ever met. They had to crow about what a fabulous time they were having—a better time than anyone back home was having, no doubt—all the beautiful people they had met—much more gorgeous than anyone receiving the message, surely—and where they were set to tread next—invariably, somewhere ten-fold as exciting as where they were.

I just know that there's an e-mail to this effect in my inbox right now. Perhaps it's from an ex-lab partner from my first-year chemistry class, or one from a girl in my mountain bike club who's been sending the largest mass e-mails anyone's ever compiled writing from places like Bangkok and Sri Lanka.

Be warned: do not open an e-mail of this sort unless you're well prepared. Sitting in front of your computer screen at home, with greasy hair and wearing sweatpants that weren't meant to be worn this many times without visiting a laundromat, is not a safe time to be exposed to an e-mail of this sort. It's extremely depressing. They're backpacking across foreign lands while enjoying exquisite native cuisine that your tongue can only dream of. They probably don't even remember what sweatpants are, given that the temperatures there never call for anything more than short shorts and spaghetti-strapped tank tops.

Now, I'm not jealous; I'm not envious. My apprehension here is caused by the impersonal, egocentric underpinnings of this form of generic travelogue. I expect that a truly close friend will sit down with me after their travels and share their experi-



E-BRAGGART We don't need puffed-up descriptions of foreign lands, thanks.

ences, both good and bad. There is no meaningful content in glossed-over travelogue content to impress mass audiences. It's like mothers who send out photocopied Christmas letters to family and friends, never mentioning little Jimmy's drug addiction, but making profound remarks about Sarah's "honors with distinction" award. Not everyone is having fairy-tale experiences abroad, and I don't doubt that many stories have been embellished.

So as I reach for my mouse and pre-

pare to be un-amazed by this drive, I hope that I have received an e-mail by someone telling the truth. Someone who will admit that the heat is causing them delirium; they're running out of money; they're lost; a dingo stole their baby; they've been bitten by a massive insect of the cockroach family, and they're in need of medical attention, but sadly opted not to purchase travel insurance offered by the cute agent who sold them their overpriced plane ticket, which they just realized was one-way.

## THE BURLAP SACK

Now, most people that know me know that, like most men, I appreciate a good hand job. Yes, with all the benefits of masturbation without the actual work of having to do it yourself, a hand job is a pretty solid way to "release tension," if you will.

And because I like them so much, I've had my share of hand jobs in my share of odd places: bedrooms, bathrooms, cars, massage parlours, offices—the list could go on for a while. But there's one place I haven't had a hand job: CAB. Nope, despite my love of getting a little tug o' the cock, not once have I found myself sitting on CAB's couches with my dink out and being liberally stroked.

But apparently, someone on this University has. For those of you who are avid readers of Campus Crime Beat, this is no surprise, but for those who aren't, apparently, some time over Reading Week, a pair of University students were caught white-handed, as it were.

Now, I realize it was Reading Week, and presumably campus was a bit slower than normal, but do you people not have a home? Or a car? Or a fucking bathroom stall? You were in CAB, for fuck's sake—go upstairs to one of the many empty classrooms if you're that horny. Really, hand jobs are great, but that's no excuse to use CAB for assisted-stroking needs. Fuckheads.

DAVID BERRY

The Burlap Sack is a semi-regular feature where a person or group who needs to be put in a sack and beaten is ridiculed in print. No sack beatings are actually administered.



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**ABSOLUTELY LOONEY** What the hell is the WB going to do to our beloved Looney Tunes characters?

## Loonatics getting set to rape my childhood



IRIS  
TSE

This isn't even close to *Looney Tunes*: Back in *Action* in its level of suckitude.

I'm baffled as to why any WB executives with full control of their facilities would green-light this bastardization of Bugs Bunny and company. Honestly, transforming *Looney Tunes* characters into futuristic, angular, crime-fighting cyborgs makes as much sense as *Garfield the Movie*; that movie was a completely soulless excuse for entertainment, yet this manages to totally top that.

The lack of eyeballs in any of the six characters shows part of the ominous beginnings of the series. The barely recognizable Bugs Bunny, renamed to Buzz Bunny for some reason, now has lasers shooting out of his eyes. Sound familiar? Yeah, that's because that's exactly like Cyclops from the *X-Men*. Not to mention the fact that the name "Buzz Bunny" sounds suspiciously like a dual-speed vibrator rather than a supposedly kid-friendly cartoon character aimed at the six-to-eleven set. Thanks for raping my childhood, WB.

"Re-imagined" cartoons are hardly unheard of. However, the successful ones have been handled with much more finesse and respect for the original series than *Loonatics*. *Tiny Toons*,

another spinoff of *Looney Tunes*, was pretty funny in a '90s kind of way, the revived *Scooby Doo* series is surprisingly palatable, and *Space Ghost: Coast 2 Coast* is far better than the original Hanna Barbera throwaway piece of shit.

I usually try not to judge a series before I actually watch it, but the more I look at the promo pictures and the premise of the *Loonatics* series, the more convinced I am to judge away. This series has deviated so far from the ageless qualities of the old *Looney Tunes* that it seems only the most insipid animators are responsible for this, and only the most insipid parents will let their kids watch it.

Look, there are important character dynamics in *Looney Tunes*: Wile E. Coyote will never catch the Roadrunner; Sylvester will never eat Tweety; Elmer Fudd will never shoot Bugs Bunny; Pepé Le Pew will never find love within his own species. They're not supposed to join together as D-rated *X-Men* wannabes to fight crime in space. Stop fucking with Chuck Jones's characters.

Somebody really should throw a stick of Acme dynamite at this shiftest before it makes it to the Sunday cartoon lineup.

## Pop bottles are more inspiring than our politicians



PAUL  
MOORE

leadership, as he has done nothing to inspire the nation or stimulate progressive change.

As stagnantly boring as Mr Martin is, the opposition isn't faring much better. Stephen Harper put in a solid effort last federal election, going to such lengths as getting a new hairdo to show us his leadership abilities. Unfortunately, despite the best efforts of his barber, the Conservative leader's horrendously red neck is still as obvious as ever. Canadians just don't want a gun-slingin', anti-gay, pro-war, George W.-mimic. That's not the leadership we need.

Would you mind looking under your couch for the NDP? Most of the party got lost a few months ago, about the same time as they lost seats in the federal election and were shut out of any Saskatchewan ridings. Currently, their leader, Jack Layton, is most likely attempting to regain national influence by busily regurgitating some socialist tirade at a retirement home in Regina.

And, speaking of the Canadian political wasteland, anyone know who the leader of the Green Party is? Don't worry: I can't remember either. The

It's fairly telling when a pop bottle is more profound than most of our political leaders. A recent Jones soda purchase had wiser words—John Lennon's famous "Give peace a chance"—on its label than any I've heard from most of our political leaders.

Consider our current prime minister. Paul Martin is one of the least charismatic leaders Canadians have ever endured; he's blander than a giant bowl of oatmeal. With a minority government, Martin has such little space for political wrangling that he cannot properly lead the nation. Rather, he has become an obscure figurehead, contributing little more to the national agenda than the odd "I don't know," or "I was never part of that committee." Canadians cannot look to him for

Greens got their best publicity by being left out of the CBC leaders' debate, but that kind of energy just isn't sustainable without work. Needless to say, there's certainly no solid leadership within the mainstream opposition parties.

Ironically, it seems that Canada's most dynamic politician is a separatist. Sporting a flashy personality and down-to-earth political strategy, Gilles Duceppe of the Bloc Québécois is representing Québec's interests with sophisticated grace. His distinguished poise and occasional poke at the shenanigans that distract the rest of the nation give him undeniable appeal. Too bad he wants to break apart the country, eh?

Canadians are hopelessly lacking any satisfactory political guidance, and it has brought horrendous ignorance; we care more about the NHL season officially being declared dead than the federal budget. We must find an individual capable of fuelling a progressive national agenda—someone with enough character and political elegance to break through the status quo that has sunk the nation into political stupor. Or, we could find another bottle of Pop.

The eternal debate rages on.



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GATEWAY OPINION We haven't shut up since 1910

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# Election Po





# Poster Slam

Posters slammed by David Berry, Iris Tse and Paul Owen. Photo by Leanne Fong

**C**ampaign posters: they're as essential to student politics as vague platitudes, dreamy eyes and lying to your constituents. And every year about this time, our campus becomes virtually wallpapered with them by Captain Candidate and the Campaign Squad. Each poster is designed to grab your eyes and convince the six of you who are voting to pick this ineffectual arts councilor over that other engineering dude.

But how successful are they? Which posters are destined for that great Valhalla of glossy paper in the sky, and which were most likely fished out of the toilet and photocopied ten minutes before nomination deadline? Only the Gateway knows for sure, and thus we humbly present to you, our dear reader, this year's edition of the best and assiest of campaign posters.

This year's panel consists of **Iris Tse**, author of the best-selling design book *Cuntpuncher*, **Paul Owen**, a Nobel laureate who observed poster proceedings in the recent Ukrainian election, and **David Berry**, who has been writing his name in the snow with urine for well-on 15 years now. Before we get to the posters, we'd like to remind you to vote with your hearts and minds, not your eyes—otherwise, “none of the above” might just win everything.

**David:** Well, thanks to both of you for coming out. God knows I wouldn't be here if I wasn't being handsomely reimbursed.

**Iris:** You're getting paid for this?

**Paul:** I'm just happy to get a chance to inform the student body, and also to make fat jokes.

**David:** Well, anyway, pleasantries aside, let's get this thing started. How about we start with the race that has the least effect on anything: VP (Student Life). Any thoughts on Carolyn Nowry's offering?

**Iris:** This poster looks like she got her artistic inspiration from a Sweet 'N Low packet.

**Paul:** Pinkness aside, this poster tells me that Carolyn should clearly be the next VPSL; she's already got Duncan Taylor's vest and everything.

**David:** She's also obviously already aware of the fact that the VPSL doesn't actually do anything—she doesn't make one tangible campaign promise on this poster.

**Paul:** I wonder if she could even list those student services she's promising to enhance.

**Iris:** Yeah, really, what do you think her underlying campaign promises are? (Rimshot)

**David:** You're fired. Anyway, this pink is seriously starting to hurt my eyes, so let's check out the other candidate, Justin Kehoe.

**Paul:** Well, for starters, instead of the vest, he's clearly part of a band called Nickelback. It's also good to know that his idea of student life consists of sleeping in bike racks.

**David:** Either that or having sex with Slinkies.

**Iris:** Well, despite the crappiness of his pictures, and his inability to properly use the shift key, this is actually a pretty nice poster.

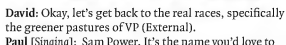
**David:** I agree. Though “Foster, Pursue, Strengthen,” sounds like something I'd read in penis-enlargement spam, his poster is decently eye-catching, in a non-fuck-is-that-ever-pink kind of way.

**Iris:** How about we check out the two acclamation races. Let's start with VP (Operations and Finance); clearly Jason Tobias ran for vice-president of something in junior high and decided to recycle his poster. I'm surprised there's not a “Rosslyn Rulezzz!” scratched out on the side.

**Paul:** Since he's running unopposed, he's obviously decided to cheap out on posters and blow most of his campaign budget in RATT. This is less a campaign poster than it is a giant “fuck you” to everyone who didn't run against him.



Continued on the next page



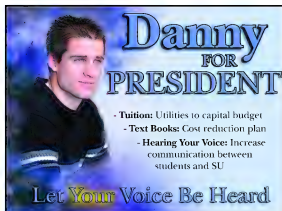
**David:** Well, anyway, I like the Spanky the Wonder Elf posters—you get a really good sense of just who Spanky

is. You have statesman Spanky, sexy Spanky, fun-loving Spanky, hell-bent-on-world-domination Spanky—truly a renaissance wonder elf.

**Paul:** You know, I'm not in favour of his "taking my money" policy, but I am in favour of his "holding other universities hostage" policy, so I'm a little torn.

**Iris:** His posters look kind of crappy, but at least Spanky has the excuse that he's actually supposed to be a joke—"Danny" certainly can't hide behind that.

**David:** What is his last name, anyway?



**Paul:** I'm sure the lostens photographer who took this reject grad photo probably knows.

**Iris:** Maybe he's just inspired by that South Park character, Timmy. His "campaign promises" suggest he's at least a little retarded.

**David:** Utilities to capital budget!

**Paul:** Seriously, what does that even mean?

**David:** Danny! Utilities to capital budget!

**Paul:** Besides retarded, he's also swathed in a purple cloud of shittiness. Fuck is that a lot of purple.

**Iris:** That is violently ugly. Why don't we move on to something with a little less colour, like Mustafa Hirji's black-and-white wonder?

**Paul:** How about we don't? What can you say about it?



**David:** I guess the fact that he has four posters is kind of lame, or something. I hope people don't actually stop and read all four of those things. Jerk!

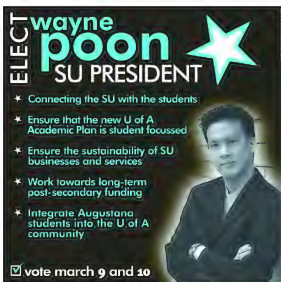
**Iris:** And don't we go on to something a bit easier to mock, like Wayne Poon's Canadian Idol poster?

**Paul:** I still refuse to accept the fact that this is actually a real person.

**David:** I don't like the stars—buddy, if you're going for some kind of "Poon-star" thing, I have to say that if you worked for me, I'd fire you.

**Paul:** And what's with the teal font?

**Iris:** That's robin's egg, dinknut.



**David:** Whatever it is, there needs to be a lot less stuff on this poster. Take a look at Alex Abboud's poster, for instance; that's a good use of empty space.

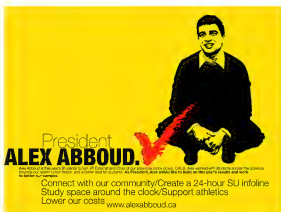
**Paul:** Yeah, too bad he looks like a jaundiced, constipated toad.

**David:** Really? I think he's just running on the ever-popular "I'm clearly hiding a shame-boner" platform.

**Iris:** I think he looks like Donkey Kong. I'm expecting him to pick up a barrel and throw it at Mario any time now. Also, what's with that big, red, lipstick checkmark?

**David:** Apparently his mom definitely wants him to be president.

**Paul:** And apparently "President Alex Abboud" is a sentence now. Anyone want to play a game of "let's find the verb"?



**David:** How about a game of "let's find the communist within the SU"? Judging by his poster, Graham Lettner is going for a Sky Lettner and the World of Communist Russia approach.

**Paul:** He should be running for dictator-for-life.

**Iris:** Why does his poster look like it's been ripped down and trampled on?

**Paul:** It's probably to represent the oppression and hardship of being a proletariat white engineer.

**David:** It's a nice poster, though. Graham is obviously using the Kotovych method: "My posters don't say anything, but damn do they make me look good."

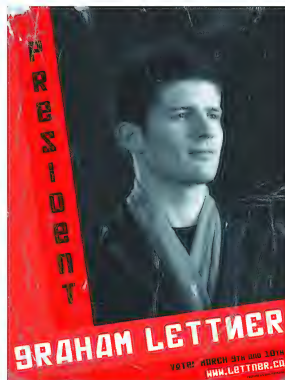
It gives me the urge to throw off the yoke of my capitalist oppressors.

**Iris:** Come to think of it, maybe those are actually just drool marks from his cadre of female campaign volunteers.

**David:** Anyway, I'd say that about wraps it up—now it's time for our final judgments. Iris, what say you?

**Iris:** Well, Shawna Pandya's poster makes me want to cry, but I think the obvious choice for worst poster is Mathieu Johnson's—let's just pray that poster never procreates. As for best, I like Justin Kehoe's—though that bike rack picture is unfortunate, it's pretty easy on the eyes and it's an inoffensive shade of yellow, unlike, say, Alex Abboud's. How about you, Paul?

**Paul:** [Singing]: Sam Power. Well, no, seriously, I don't want to pile it on Mathieu Johnson, but fuck is that thing



ugly. And as for favourite, I'd have to say high-chancellor Lettner. It's pretty slick, even if he does avoid all semblance of a campaign. What about you, David?

**David:** Well, I'm just going to go ahead and exclude Mathieu Johnson's poster from the competition—it doesn't even deserve a mention. Besides, "Danny" doesn't deserve to get off so easy for his almost-as-hIDEOUS posterial abortion. As for best, though I like Lettner's poster, Justin Kehoe's is both sharp and it tells you about the candidate, which is really what you want in these things, so I say he wins

**Overall Worst:** Mathieu Johnson

**Overall Best:** Justin Kehoe

**David "Skip" Zeiblen Honourary Award For Utter Crapulence:** The SU "Vote" ads, which not only once again use sex to sell, but barely even make a coherent point this time around. Politics sucks more? More than what? A blow-up doll? They don't actually suck at all, they just sort of lay there, inflated, while you have sex with them. And don't even get us started on "Chew out your candidate" and "Sex, scandal or politics." For shame, SU, for shame.



# Students' Union Employment Opportunities



**TERMS OF OFFICE:** 1 May 2005 to 30 April 2006 (in most cases)

**\*All Director Positions Are 30 Hours Per Week**

**APPLICATION DEADLINE:** Monday, 14 March 2005, 5:00 pm NO EXCEPTIONS

Submit COMPLETE PACKAGE to 2-900 SUB

**APPLICATION FORMS:** Available at SU Reception Desk 2-900 SUB, and SUB, HUB, CAB, ETLC Info Booths and Faculty Association Offices or online at [www.su.ualberta.ca](http://www.su.ualberta.ca).

*Please note use of distinct application for speaker position.*

## IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS

- Please submit only single sided documents. We thank everyone who applies, however ONLY shortlisted applicants will be notified.
- Please be available for the noted interview time.
- Applicants must be undergraduate students and have paid full Students' Union fees.
- Positions subject to Council ratification and signing of employment contract.

### ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT ACADEMIC

Reports to the VP Academic. Assists and reports on various academic issues – coordinating projects related to academic affairs. Represent the VP Academic and serve as the resource person for the AAB, GFCSC and student reps on University committees. This position requires a minimum of 20 hours per week in office time.

**Remuneration:** \$1098/month May-August

\$961/month September-April

For further information contact the VP Academic.

**Interviews scheduled for Tuesday, March 29, starting at 5:00 pm.**

### ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT EXTERNAL

Reports to the VP External. Assists with organization of on and off-campus events designed to introduce members of the community and prospective students to the Students' Union and the U of A. Minimum of 20 hours per week in office time required.

**Remuneration:** \$1098/month May-August

\$961/month September-April

For further information contact the VP External.

**Interviews scheduled for Tuesday, March 29, starting at 5:00 pm.**

### ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT STUDENT LIFE

Reports to the VP Student Life. Assists with the programming and the volunteer management components of the VP Student Life's portfolio. Minimum of 20 hours per week in office time required.

**Remuneration:** \$1098/month May-August

\$961/month September-April

For further information contact the VP Student Life.

**Interviews scheduled for Wednesday, March 30, starting at 5:00 pm.**

### SPEAKER OF STUDENTS' COUNCIL

Reports to Students' Council. Chairs all meetings of Students' Council in accordance with Roberts' Rules of Order and the Standing Orders of Students' Council. Position currently under review.

**Remuneration:** \$135.00/meeting

**Interviews scheduled for Thursday, March 31, starting at 7:00 pm.**

**APPLICATIONS FOR THIS POSITION MUST BE MADE ON THE SEPARATE APPLICATION TITLED "SPEAKER APPLICATION".**

### UNIVERSITY POLICY AND INFORMATION OFFICER

Reports to the VP Academic. Provides information and advice regarding U of A policies, priorities, and practices through research and analysis. Assists in writing and researching policies. Conducts research into policies and practices of other post-secondary institutions or other matters related to the academic portfolio as required. This position requires a minimum of 20 hours per week in office time.

**Remuneration:** under review

For further information contact the VP Academic.

**Interviews scheduled for Friday, March 25, starting at 5:00 pm.**

### CHIEF RETURNING OFFICER

Reports to the House Committee of Students' Council and oversees all electoral logistics. Must be familiar with election process and bylaws. Excellent project management skills are required to succeed in this position.

**Remuneration:** \$3744.00 flat fee

For further information contact the President.

**Interviews scheduled for Thursday, March 31, starting at 5:00 pm.**

### ECOS (Environmental Coordination Office of Students) DIRECTOR\*

Reports to the Manager Student Services. The Director of ECOS is responsible for researching, developing and implementing environmental programs for the Students' Union on Campus.

**Remuneration:** \$1333/month

For further information contact the Manager of Student Services at 492-4236.

**Interviews scheduled for Monday, March 21, starting at 4:00 pm.**

### INFORMATION SERVICES DIRECTOR\*

Reports to the Manager Student Services. Responsible for overseeing all aspects of the service, including various online listing services and five information desks. The Director will also work with and provide support and direction to the Associate Directors of the service and manage, train and evaluate hourly staff.

**Remuneration:** \$1406/month

For further information contact the Manager of Student Services at 492-4236.

**Interviews scheduled for Thursday, March 24, starting at 5:00 pm.**

### OMBUD SERVICE DIRECTOR\*

Reports to the Manager Student Services. Must possess strong listening skills and be an effective mediator. Must be familiar with University and Students' Union grievance and appeal procedures, and will represent and advise students on such matters.

**Remuneration:** \$1318/month

**Term:** This position requires a two-year commitment.

For further information contact the Manager of Student Services at 492-4236.

**Interviews scheduled for Thursday, March 24, starting at 6:30 pm.**

### SAFEGWALK DIRECTOR\*

Reports to the Manager Student Services. Work with other units on campus to improve and promote safety. Excellent opportunity to develop volunteer management and administrative skills.

**Remuneration:** \$1346/month

For further information contact the Manager of Student Services at 492-4236.

**Interviews scheduled for Monday, March 21, starting at 8:00 pm.**

### STUDENT DISTRESS CENTRE DIRECTOR\*

Reports to the Manager Student Services. In conjunction with the Distress Line, offers peer counselling, crisis intervention and information/referral services to the campus community. Must have at least one year of comparable peer-counselling experience.

**Remuneration:** \$1346/month

For further information contact the Manager of Student Services at 492-4236.

**Interviews scheduled for Tuesday, March 22, starting at 4:00 pm.**

### STUDENT GROUPS DIRECTOR\*

Reports to the Manager Student Services. Organize and provide support to a diverse array of student groups as the Director of Student Groups. Provide administration and support to these groups.

**Remuneration:** \$1333/month

For further information contact the Manager of Student Services at 492-4236.

**Interviews scheduled for Monday, March 21, starting at 6:00 pm.**

### CAMPUS FOOD BANK MANAGER\*

Reports to the Campus Food Bank Board of Directors. Responsible for all aspects of the Campus Food Bank, including volunteer recruitment, training, etc.

**Remuneration:** \$1333/month

For further information contact the Manager of Student Services at 492-4236.

**Interview Time TBA.**



# Volunteer Opportunities Boards & Committees



**TERMS OF OFFICE:** 1 May 2005 to 30 April 2006 (in most cases)

**APPLICATION DEADLINE:** Monday, 14 March 2005, 5:00 pm NO EXCEPTIONS

Submit COMPLETE PACKAGE to 2-900 SUB

**APPLICATION FORMS:** Available at SU Reception Desk 2-900 SUB, and SUB, HUB, CAB, ETLIC Info Booths and Faculty Association Offices or online at [www.su.ualberta.ca](http://www.su.ualberta.ca). Detailed information available at 2-900 SUB.

## IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS

- Please submit only single sided documents. We thank everyone who applies, however ONLY shortlisted applicants will be notified.
- Please be available for the noted interview time.
- Applicants must be undergraduate students and have paid full Students' Union fees.

## STUDENTS' UNION BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

### ACADEMIC AFFAIRS BOARD

- makes recommendations to Students' Council on academic issues
- assists and advises the Vice-President Academic
- deals with activities relating to student awareness of academic issues
- administers Students' Union Awards

For further information contact the VP Academic

Lisa McLaughlin at 492-4236.

Interviews scheduled for Tuesday, April 12, after 5:00 pm.

### EXTERNAL AFFAIRS BOARD

- creates and coordinates projects on campus concerning various issues of interest and concern

- assists and advises the Vice-President External

For further information contact the VP External

Alex Abboud at 492-4236.

Interviews scheduled for Tuesday, April 12, after 5:00 pm.

### ADVOCACY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

- deals with activities relating to advocacy on the U of A campus

- assists and advises the President

NOTE - this committee is currently under review

Interviews scheduled for Thursday, April 14, starting at 5:00 pm.

### PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE

- makes recommendations regarding SU entertainment events and programs

- assists and advises the Vice-President Student Life

For further information contact the VP Student Life

Duncan Taylor at 492-4236.

Interviews scheduled for Tuesday, April 12, after 5:00 pm.

### STUDENT LIFE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

- monitors and provides direction to Anti-Freeze and WOW Planning Committee

- assists and advises the Vice-President Student Life

For further information contact the VP Student Life

Duncan Taylor at 492-4236.

Interviews scheduled for Tuesday, April 12, after 5:00 pm.

## STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENTS

### COMMITTEE ON OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY & ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

- requires 1 undergraduate student
- to recommend policy and serve as the focal point for consideration of policy issues to the University community

MEETS: At the call of the Chair

### ONECARD ADVISORY COMMITTEE

- requires 1 undergraduate student to provide valuable feedback and guidance on all aspects of the current and future ONEcard operations.

MEETS: At the call of the Chair

For further information on Standing Committees contact the VP Academic

Lisa McLaughlin at 492-4236.

Interviews scheduled for Tuesday, April 12, after 5:00 pm.

### UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA SENATE

- requires 4 undergraduate students appointed by the Students' Union
- the Senate's responsibility is to inquire into any matter that may enhance the image of the University and act as a link between the University and the public. The Senate may also authorize the conferring of Honorary Degrees.

MEETS: Four times yearly

For further information contact the VP External Alex Abboud at 492-4236

Interviews scheduled for Tuesday, April 12, after 5:00 pm.

### COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

- assists and advises the VP External
- deals with activities relating to the general Edmonton community

For further information contact the VP External Alex Abboud at 492-4236

Interviews scheduled for Friday, April 15, after 5:00 pm.

### FACULTY-BASED INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY STEERING COMMITTEE

- requires 5 undergraduate students
- to provide input into the technology-related needs of students to help determine the services that Computing and Network Services (CNS) should support centrally

MEETS: Every 1-2 months for 2 hours

\*Note: the committee will likely meet during the summer months

Interviews scheduled for Tuesday, April 12, after 5:00 pm.

## SOCIAL INTERCOURSE

### Weill in Weimar, 1929

Edmonton Opera  
Paramount on Jasper  
3-6 March at 8pm

Think cabaret: dimly lit rooms where deep-voiced women croon songs of desperation while smoking long cigarettes.

Weill in Weimar takes audiences back to 1929 Germany where dark nightspots were the birthplace of cabaret. Combining songs with theatre, the show focuses on the works of Kurt Weill and hopes to spark interest in the mysterious art form that is cabaret.

**Swing Emporium Big Band**  
**Fifth Annual Dinner and Dance**  
Fantasyland Hotel  
Friday, 4 March at 6:30pm

Let's not kid ourselves: we all like dancing and playing dress-up. Why not combine the two into a fantastic evening?

The Swing Emporium Big Band is an 18-piece ensemble comprising local musicians passionate to share their talent with their community. With an extensive playlist including foxtrots, jives and waltzes, the band hosts a number of high-energy events throughout the year, the most popular of which is their annual dinner and dance.

### SoulDecision

with Billy Klippert  
Red's  
Saturday, 5 March at 7pm

Perhaps not as popular as they were when their single "Ooh, It's Kinda Crazy" was first released in 1998, those of us in our 20s likely relate the Vancouver group's sultry vocals with crying into our pillows over our first breakups.

Since then they've released a new album, gained a new member, and, yes, they've even aged. Soul Decision is on a mission to prove they're just as cute and talented as when you were fourteen, turning up their music on the long-dead Power 92.

ASIA SZKULAREK  
Ooh, she's kinda crazy



## Be Cool be totally awesome

### Be Cool

Directed by F. Gary Gray  
Starring John Travolta, Uma Thurman,  
Vince Vaughn, Christina Milian and André 3000  
Opens Friday, 4 March

MICHAEL LABROQUE  
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Movie sequels are a dangerous venture usually prompted by producers hoping beyond hope that they can rake in the same kind of cash they made off the first movie. Fans' reactions tend to run the gamut from "They're making a sequel!" to "They're making a sequel!" and the latter expression tends to be the one that sticks.

Be Cool, the follow-up to 1995's *Get Shorty*, is a production peppered with big names and a clearly inflated production value, signs that would suggest *Be Cool* is teetering on the verge of mediocrity. Not so. Great acting and a clever script make it perhaps the smartest sequel you'll see this year.

John Travolta reprises his role as the über-smooth gangster-cum-movie producer Chili Palmer who, after regrettably doing a sequel to the movie he was making in *Get Shorty*, decides

to try his hand at producing music. After hearing about hot new singer Linda Moon (Christina Milian) from his record-exec friend, Chili witnesses his friend get gunned down—eventually—in a pitiful drive-by shooting by the Russian mafia. Between witnessing a hit and literally strong-arming Linda's contract from her wannabe-gangster manager Raji (Vince Vaughn), the whole town wants a piece of Chili Palmer.

Pretty soon, everybody in Hollywood is involved, ranging from love-interest Edie (Uma Thurman), the head of the rap game Sin LeSalle (Cedric the Entertainer) and his 50 Cent-aspirant nephew Dabu (André 3000), local record bigwig Nick Carr (Harvey Keitel), incompetent hired gun Joe Loop (the late Robert Pastorelli) and Raji's ambiguously gay bodyguard Elliot (The Rock). It's enough to suffocate a lesser movie, but *Be Cool* makes it work.

The reason this film manages to succeed so well as a sequel is all the star power it has behind it. The movie really doesn't have a lead and every big name who signed up for this movie seems to be willing to divide the spotlight at least five ways, definitely getting less screen time and lower billing than they would have on another project. But in the end, this creates a spectacular dynamic.

The most winning parts of the movie aren't to do with the plot, but are in the sometimes meaningless but hilarious episodes that occur between the characters; tiny scenes that could have been cut out but thankfully were not.

To its credit, *Get Shorty* had an indefinable charm that really could never be duplicated in a sequel, but *Be Cool* largely avoids that by not trying to extend itself off of the original and instead fully embraces its "sequelness," cleverly rehashing the smartest jokes from the original and poking fun at itself at every turn. The film's humour comes largely from its blatant, over-the-top lampooning of music business stereotypes, a brand of humour that easily would have fallen flat if the film had tried too hard to be its own entry and not fully acknowledged its relation to the first picture.

Ultimately, *Be Cool*'s only fault may be that it is a little too similar to its forerunner, even if they have some fun with that point. Beyond that, the humour is intelligent and virtually free of cheap laughs, and John Travolta and Uma Thurman even share a dance in a less-than-subtle tribute to *Pulp Fiction*. Even the most cynical moviegoer would have to smile at this, showing that *Be Cool* indeed lives up to its title.

## PC-complainers won't silence Guttermouth

### Guttermouth

with Planet Smashers and Ghosts of Modern Man  
The Starliner Room  
Saturday, 5 March at 7pm

YING-ING LEE  
Arts & Entertainment Writer

With a name like Guttermouth, you'd think people would expect off-colour content from this veteran So-Cal punk band. But the band is no stranger to incensed comments from the PC set.

And there's only one angry response that stands out in the mind of Guttermouth frontman Mark Adkins. It was around the time of the release of his band's first album back in the early '90s, and the culprit was fanzine *Maximum Rock N' Roll* out of San Francisco.

"The people who worked at the fanzine lost their mind over our first album. They got on the phone and called me sexist, a homophobe, a bigot and a false patriot," Adkins laments. "They had no rationalization for it. It was really mind-blowing."

Over ten years later, it appears as though Adkins has grown a tougher skin. Guttermouth, known for its outlandish and sometimes outrageous stage presence, continues to thrive on creating a ruckus, all in the name of punk rock.

Take the band's attitude during last summer's

Warped Tour: "Everyone was anti-Bush! Anti-Bush! So we decided to go the other way. We're going to go 100 per cent pro-Bush and pro-war. We had slogans and shirts that said, 'War: once you're in it, you might as well win it.' It made a lot of people really upset, and that was kind of our point. It was just fun to get a rise out of people, and boy did we," says Adkins.

Guttermouth quickly brushed the dirt off their shoulders after they were "cordially invited" to leave the tour. That summer also saw the release of their latest album, *Eat Your Face*, the follow-up to 2002's self-described "crappy album," *Gusto*.

"In the years past we tried to make the vocals sound really nice and tried to make sure everything was on key and on pitch," Adkins explains. This time around, guitarist Scott Sheldon suggested they record the songs in one or two takes. The result: an album recorded in record time with a more natural, live feel.

"It was just a natural feeling instead of this over-produced studio feeling with the big oohs and aahs and the 18-thousand-part harmonies. That just sounds very not punk."

As usual, the release of Guttermouth's new album was followed closely by criticism for the band's vulgar lyrics and its disregard for anything remotely politically correct.

"Oh, I want nothing to do with being politically correct. I think it's the most absurd move-



ment that's ever surfaced," says Adkins.

"It's just absolutely disgusting to me. It's censorship, in my opinion. I mean, there's certain things you can go too far with. The thing that happens is people take it too far and it naturally backfires. If I say something, it's my problem. It's a cliché little movement and it's just like, get over it! There are much more important things

in life," he says.

More important things like being in a punk band.

"I've been involved in this punk thing for over half my life, and so it's definitely a part of me. I was a part of punk when that phrase 'political correctness' hadn't even been invented yet. When it was, boy, did shit ever hit the fan."

# Home, home on the stage

*Fool For Love's* cowboy feel aims to wrangle up the non-theatre-going masses

## Fool For Love

Directed By Kevin Sutley  
Starring Nathan Cuckow  
and Daniela Vaskolic  
The Rosy Theatre (10708 124 Street)  
Opens Thursday, 3 March

TYSON KABAN  
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Unless you're a member of the Hilton family, chances are you've stayed in a shitty motel—the kind with rooms so dingy that its walls would rather puke than talk. But in the motel room that serves as the setting for *Fool For Love*, guests Eddie and May are more concerned with each other's (un)happiness than the suspicious stains on the bedsheets.

From the isolation of a dingy motel room, *Fool For Love* follows estranged lovers Eddie and May as they attempt to untangle their love-hate relationship. Filled with emotional exploitation and psychological manipulation, the play is an unrestrained look at how fucked up love and relationships can be. Sam Shepard's intensely written drama continues to affect Nathan Cuckow, who plays Eddie.

"The play is very fiery and relentless. It runs on all cylinders. It's emotion and passion and fire. It's also really funny," Cuckow says. "It's definitely a challenge, as an actor, to do Shepard's work, which is always very layered. There's surreal elements in his story-telling and it operates on many different levels. It's a very powerful play and has been a very rewarding artistic experience."

**"I lasso in the show. You would be amazed how many people stop and want to talk to you when they see you lassoing outside."**

NATHAN CUCKOW, ACTOR,  
*FOOL FOR LOVE*

Cuckow most recently performed in *Stand Up Homo*, a comedic one-man show about growing up a gay Mormon—a radical departure from his current role as the hyper-masculine, wannabe-cowboy Eddie. But as the professional thespian he is, Cuckow is up to the challenge. In fact, it won't be the first time he's made such a radical change in character.



"It is bizarre going from something like *Stand Up Homo*, which is on the left side of things, to the complete opposite end of the spectrum. Eddie's definitely the alpha male. But as an actor, that's what's most exciting—is being able to go all over the spectrum and play all sorts of different people," he says. "I've done that before. I was in a Stewart Lemoine play called *The Hot House Prince* where I was playing a transsexual opium dealer and dressed up like a geisha. Then right after, I did a show called *Suburbia* where I played a skinhead. *Fool For Love's* the same thing. It's just a huge transition, something you need to wrap your head around."

In order to complete his transformation into modern cowboy Eddie, Cuckow learned some tricks of the West, got some new duds and was quite surprised with the results.

"I lasso in the show. You would be amazed how many people stop and want to talk to you when they see you lassoing outside. Everybody wants to be your friend when they see you lasso," he jokes. "I wear the really tight Wranglers, just the super tight, black Wrangler jeans that I would never ever be caught dead wearing. But I've been told that they actually look quite good

on me. Who knows? I just might start wearing them all the time."

The mere appearance of Wranglers onstage could be enough to attract a new kind of audience—one that prefers seeing a cowboy to a transsexual opium dealer. Cuckow's Kill Your Television theatre company has always tried to gather Albertans who don't know what they're missing by avoiding live theatre. And with the rural feel of *Fool For Love*, Cuckow hopes that he'll be seeing more Wranglers in the audience than onstage.

"We have always been interested in creating theatre that would not only appeal to a theatre-going demographic, but also for those who are caught up in today's technology as entertainment, whether it be TV, film or the Internet," he says.

"With Kill Your Television, we try to show them theatre can be accessible and doesn't have to be elitist. We want to connect to the people who think that they don't like theatre. And with *Fool For Love*, we have an Alberta connection, there's a rural feel to the show and there's the cowboy element. We certainly hope that's going to attract those people who live here. If not, it's still a great show and whoever is going to see it will be glad they did."

## free stuff

To win a pair of tickets to either the March 4th or 5th performance of **Holy Body Tattoo**, email us at [contests@gateway.ualberta.ca](mailto:contests@gateway.ualberta.ca) with the name of one of the choreographers.



## Print it!



There is a 50¢ disk charge for all digital work. Any subsequent editing will be charged at \$40.00 per hour with a 15 minute minimum charge.

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Black & White	11x17	12¢	23¢

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The new Access to the Future Fund will provide millions of dollars each year for addressing access, affordability and quality, to strengthen Alberta's post-secondary institutions for the century ahead.



WEDNESDAY MARCH 9 10PM - NO COVER

## human downpour

the 2005 gateway photography art show



**March 5th—31st**  
**sugarbowl** 10922 88 avenue  
 opening: saturday, march 5th @ 9pm

### THE GATEWAY

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## Campus Recreation Enhancement Fund 2005-2006 APPLICATIONS



**Financial support available to facilitate healthy, active lifestyle projects!**

The Campus Recreation Enhancement Fund (CREF) was created to help ensure that the high quality campus recreation programs, equipment and facilities remain diverse, convenient, accessible, equitable, and affordable to all University of Alberta Students' Union members.

Recreation for all on campus is an integral part of a positive U of A experience. Those organizations applying for funding from CREF must show that their request will have a positive impact on student life at the University of Alberta. The request must facilitate healthy, active lifestyles for University of Alberta students.

Application forms may be obtained in the Campus Recreation Offices  
 Rm. W-10 and W-90 Van Vleet Centre  
 or ONLINE at:  
[www.campusrec.ualberta.ca](http://www.campusrec.ualberta.ca)

Deadline for Applications  
 Thursday, March 17, 2005 @ 4:30PM



## Making minutiae Monumental

### Monumental

Holy Body Tattoo  
 Choreographed by Noam Gagnon  
 and Dana Gingras  
 Featuring Ric Brown, Sarah Doucet,  
 David Flewelling, Andrea Gunnlaugson,  
 Day Heleste, Farley Johansson, Blair Neufeld,  
 Sonja Rantzen and Sarah Williams  
 John L. Hoar Theatre  
 4-5 March at 8pm

EDMON ROTEA  
 Arts & Entertainment Writer

This urban age of never-ending progress has inspired a rise in greed and ambition. It's also inspired modern dance company Holy Body Tattoo to present *Monumental*, a show which, according to the production's co-choreographer Dana Gingras, "investigates the nature of power and how it is the root of our everyday existence in which we survive."

*Monumental* explores themes of the physical anxiety of urban culture and the need for human intimacy in a time of progress where human connection and community is vital, yet difficult to achieve. Gingras says the production even hints towards the apocalypse and poses the question, "Where are we going with progress?"

The production features intense dance moves and rich multimedia elements that Gingras hopes will spark the audience to imaginatively interpret the work. Whether the viewer pictures a bustling urban metropolis or an alienating cityscape of skyscrapers onstage, Gingras wants the audience to draw its own conclusions.

"There's no narrative per se," she says. "Instead of working in a linear way where you create a narrative, we tend to work in a much more lateral fashion. We create situations and we frame them in a specific way to allow the viewer to be questioned. This method also allows the viewer to travel within the world or the landscape we are creating."

The "landscape" created by the dancers is one that Gingras says is particularly challenging to achieve. Throughout the show, dancers perform on raised pedestals, illuminated by spotlights.

To stimulate the viewer's imagination, video projection and music are integrated throughout—something that separates *Monumental*

from conventional modern dance performances. Award-winning visual artist Jenny Holzer, whose provocative text messages graced billboards throughout New York's Times Square during the early '80s, is referenced throughout the show as a protest of today's media-saturated society.

But video projections about advertising are not the only references to modern power struggles in the piece. Images of giant windmill farms, highway overpasses, and electrical power plants—with images of body parts mixed in—are used as metaphors for power.

**"What we are trying to convey is that this minutia constitutes the monumental. Rather than taking these grand ideals and placing them upon pedestals, it's really our individual actions—the minutia—our humanity, our community, that comes together in hard times, and that's monumental."**

DANA GINGRAS, CO-CHOREOGRAPHER,  
*MONUMENTAL*

*Monumental's* choreography is inspired by the power struggle of the individual striving to be free of the latent conformity instilled by society.

*Monumental* definitely has elements in the work that give it a militaristic feel—so there is a sense of uniformity and power in a group dynamic. It's almost like a social-political piece. It hints at themes that concern group mentality where people have to conform. Yet, there will always be the individuals that fall through the cracks," says Gingras.

"What we are trying to convey is that this minutia constitutes the monumental. Rather than taking these grand ideals and placing them upon pedestals, it's really our individual actions—the minutia—our humanity, our community, that comes together in hard times, and that's monumental."

## CULTURA OBSCURA



### Nintendo Belt Buckle

LEAH COLLINS  
 Arts & Entertainment Editor

Apparently, there's a plague facing retro-videogaming enthusiasts more dire than carpal tunnel syndrome, thumb blistering and morbid obesity combined: large pants. Now overly large pants in and of themselves aren't a plague, per se, but when worn by persons unaccustomed to standing (enjoying, as they so often are, a good sit while playing their 16-bit amusements), said big pants tend to fall off.

The solution: a belt—one preferably reminiscent of hours of dedication to the Donkey Kong saga.

The proprietors of [nesbuckle.com](http://nesbuckle.com) proffer just such a product. Fashioned from an actual old-school Nintendo controller, the NES buckle can be used to securely uphold any pair of pants. When worn, the belt—in tasteful, easily coordinated grey, black and red—not only has an attractive retro-chic appeal, but gives the wearer a striking resemblance to Saturday-morning hero Captain N. Ooh la la.

Best accessorized with a pair of Powerlovers and a set of red Mario-esque overalls.

# Audiences no longer desperate for top-rated television dramas



DANIEL KASZOR

A strange thing happened over the course of this television season. The scripted hour-long television show—otherwise known as the “drama”—became culturally important again. Don’t tell television executives though; it’s terrible news for them.

Over the last few years, the reality show has been filling not only television bandwidth, but also the shared cultural experience. While many dramas had decent ratings, there weren’t any that grabbed the attention of society in general, nor had good enough ratings to change the overall fortune of an entire network.

In recent seasons, those types of cultural-landmark shows fell into the reality genre. First there was *Survivor*, which captivated both those who loved it and hated it. It saved CBS from its rut as the number-three network. Then came *American Idol* and *Joe Millionaire*, which saved Fox from financial oblivion.

None of these shows were dramas. In fact, the last truly shared television experiences that were dramas came out in the early ’90s—shows like *ER* and *The X-Files*. While newer programs like *CSI* and its ilk are popular, they don’t have the same relevance as earlier dramas or reality TV.

This year, however, the story is



different. The top two new shows are both scripted dramas: *Desperate Housewives* and *Lost*. While neither of these programs get ratings that are significantly higher than *Survivor* or *American Idol*, they have buzz. Suddenly these dramas are part of a shared cultural experience.

People don’t care about the tribe “speaking” or Simon Cowell’s temperament anymore; they care whether Teri Hatcher’s character will ever catch a break or if Dominic Monaghan will ever truly kick his heroin habit.

You can see this reflected in stories about television in the media. Instead of being filled up with articles about people like the boy-toy moneybags from *Joe Millionaire*, the stories are about how Nicolette Sheridan from *Housewives* might have had plastic surgery.

You can also see the change in the fortunes of television networks. ABC, which runs both *Housewives* and *Lost*, was able to structure its whole show

lineup around its two new anchor hits. Now, there is buzz about ABC, a network that seemed to be destined to spend eternity in third place.

While the return of the well-watched television drama may be good news for connoisseurs of the small screen, it will be a costly change for TV executives.

The truth is that dramas are the most expensive shows to produce, and when they’re popular the price climbs quickly and exorbitantly. The cost for episodes of *ER* shot up to \$11 million after only a few seasons on the air. Even the most expensive reality show, *The Amazing Race*, only costs about \$1 million per episode.

Since dramas are generally better television than reality shows anyway, it doesn’t really matter to the viewer if the network’s bottom line is hurting. What counts is that you can finally talk about something over the water cooler that doesn’t have to do with people eating bugs for money.



## Doves

Some Cities

EMI

[www.doves.net](http://www.doves.net)

LEAH COLLINS

Arts & Entertainment Editor

With a stomp befitting anything with northern-soul leanings, Doves return to their Manchester roots on *Some Cities*.

And it’s a doleful—though very occasionally indie-rock dance party

joyful—return; there’s a sense of loss—loss of friendship, loss of community, loss of the hope of ever getting those things back.

Sad, but is it ever nice to listen to. With the Martha and the Vandellas-reminiscent retro-drum/bass intro of current single “Black and White Town” you might half expect singer Jimi Goodwin (whose hurting wall can’t shake comparisons to Coltrane’s Chris Martin) to break into a chorus of “Heatwave.”

But the record’s ’60s-pop outset quickly morphs into the Doves’ usual melancholy drone—part derivative of Radiohead, part Sigur Rós mysterious whale sounds—more befitting of the record’s own laments of alienation and frustration.

The overall sound is hypnotic, but it’s the anthemic surprises along the way (“Walk in Fire”) that make this record key.



## Sleeper Set Sail

A Foreword

Sonic Union

[www.sleeperettesail.com](http://www.sleeperettesail.com)

IRIS TSE

Arts & Entertainment Writer

Sleeper Set Sail sounds a lot like Alexisonfire minus the rabid screaming. And considering both bands were bred from the same musical hotbed of

St. Catharines, Ontario and they both shared the same producer, it’s not hard to come to that sort of comparison.

But upon closer listening, the differences between these two bands become more apparent. A *Foreword* is mostly dominated by instrumental tracks with very little vocals thrown into the mix. It’s as if the band is content to just play and let the music speak for itself.

And whenever they do sing, their lyrics are aerobic, curt and never take up the entire song. Two of the stand-out tracks, “Lifejacket” and “Phases,” may cause people to lump the band into the post-rock category. But really, A *Foreword* is a lot more complex than that.

And if the name of this debut EP is anything to live by, then this is only a foreword to all the good things to come.

STUDENTS' UNION PAGE 03.03.2005

## ARE YOU A MASTER DEBATER?

Then consider getting involved with Students' Council...

### What Is Students' Council?

• **Students' Council is the highest governing body of the Students' Union.**

• It approves the SU budget, passes and updates bylaws and policies, and holds the SU executive accountable.

• Some of the decisions Council has made in the last few years include creating new businesses like *Cram Dunk*, sending the U-Pass and Health Plan issues to referendum, deciding to keep SUB open 24/7, and updating a schwack of bylaws.

### What's In It For Me?

• If you're involved in the University community, want to get involved in the SU, or are interested in student politics, you should consider running for Council.

• **You'll give input on the SU's \$9,100,000 budget** and have an opportunity to sit on influential committees.

• If you're involved in a student group or faculty association, sitting on Council is an excellent way to represent your organization and keep your members in the loop.

### What Does It Take?

• **It doesn't take any student government experience** or special knowledge to sit on Council.

• You should enjoy a good debate, care about the undergraduate student experience, and not be afraid of reading bylaws and political policy. Having said that, you don't need to be a master debater or stay up all night drafting bylaws (it just helps).

How Do I Run?

• Check out the SU Councillor election website:

[www.su.ualberta.ca/election05/councillor](http://www.su.ualberta.ca/election05/councillor)

• Running for Council doesn't take much time, and there are often several seats available in each faculty (increasing your chances of winning!).

**The nomination deadline is Monday, March 14th.**

How Do I Run?

## YOUR 2004/2005 SU EXECUTIVE

492.4236

President: **Jordan Blatz**

[president@su.ualberta.ca](mailto:president@su.ualberta.ca)

Vice-President Academic: **Lisa McLaughlin**

[vp.academic@su.ualberta.ca](mailto:vp.academic@su.ualberta.ca)

Vice-President External: **Alex Abboud**

[vp.external@su.ualberta.ca](mailto:vp.external@su.ualberta.ca)

Vice-President Operations & Finance: **Alvin Law**

[vp.finance@su.ualberta.ca](mailto:vp.finance@su.ualberta.ca)

Vice-President Student Life: **Duncan Taylor**

[vp.studentlife@su.ualberta.ca](mailto:vp.studentlife@su.ualberta.ca)

SU Website:

[www.su.ualberta.ca](http://www.su.ualberta.ca)

SU Webboard:

<http://webboard.su.ualberta.ca>

Students' Council Website:

[www.su.ualberta.ca/council](http://www.su.ualberta.ca/council)



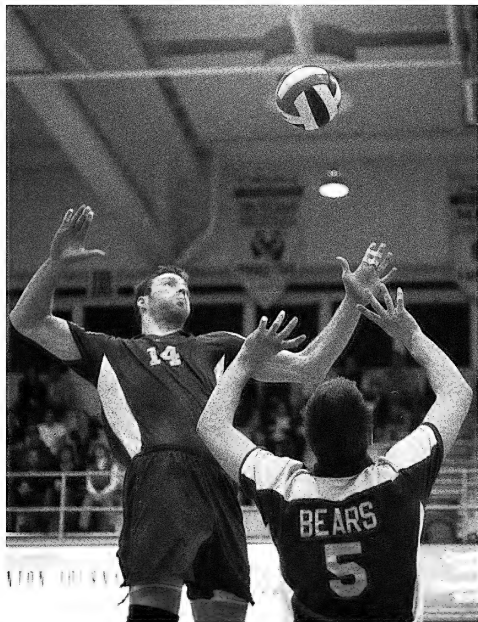
UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA  
**STUDENTS' UNION**



# SPORTS

sports@gateway.alberta.ca • Thursday, 3 March, 2005

## Volleyball teams quest for the gold



FILE PHOTO: LAUREN BERNINGS

**GEARING UP FOR THE KILL** Golden Bears Brock Davidiuk (5) and Leo Carroll (14) set up a spike.

### Bears are favoured to win it all, but competition will be fierce

ANDREW RENFREE  
Sports Writer

Well, this is it: after more than 20 weeks of beating Canada West opponents, and even a few top NCAA teams, the Golden Bears volleyball squad has three more matches to claim what they've been vying for all season—a CIS championship.

Early yesterday morning, the team boarded a plane to head to Laval University in Québec City, where the CIS final will be held this weekend. The Bears are heavily favoured to bring a medal back to the Wild Rose Province, and chances are it will have a gold tinge to it. Impressive doesn't really describe Alberta's season thus far, with a league-dominating 30-2 overall record, including only a single regular-season loss.

"Being the number-one seed going in means that teams have a lot of respect for what we're capable of doing. Once this tournament starts we start back at zero and it's a question of which team is going to be the best," said Bears head coach Terry Danyluk. "I said right from the beginning, if our team plays its best, someone's going to have to be really good to beat us."

The Bears' biggest competition will likely come from opponents whom they've already faced off against this year in Canada West conference play. The Trinity Western Spartans, who are the second seed and will likely pose the biggest challenge for Alberta, took home a conference silver medal last weekend after a four-set loss to the Bears and finished second in the conference in regular-season play with a record of 14-6. However, four of those losses came at the claws of the Bears.

The Saskatchewan Huskies will also threaten Alberta, as they are defending national champs from last year and are seeded third going into this year's tournament. The Bears look at this year as a chance to better the silver medal they settled for last year after a disappointing loss to the Huskies in the final set of the gold-medal match by a mere two-point margin.

"Whether it's revenge against Saskatchewan [or not], I think it's another opportunity to try to win a national championship, that's been our major goal the whole year," said Danyluk. "I think a lot of the guys that returned were left with a sour taste in their mouth knowing how close they were, so I think that's driving them for sure."

The other five teams battling it out on the court are the Dalhousie Tigers, Manitoba Bisons, Montréal Carabins, York Lions, and Laval Rouge et Or, seeded fourth through eighth, respectively. Although these teams are not favoured to win, Danyluk was quick to point out that they are certainly capable of pulling off an upset.

"Those teams are all teams with long-standing programs; my expectation is that they will be good opponents," Danyluk said. "Montréal won the Québec championship, York is coming out as the Ontario champ, Dalhousie is in their 25th year at the national championship, and [Laval is] playing at home, so you'd think that it will be a home-court advantage for them."

The Bears will play their first match against host Laval tomorrow, and the winner of that match will face the winner of the quarter-final between Dalhousie and Manitoba on Saturday. The gold-medal game will be broadcast live on TSN on Sunday at 2:30pm MST.



FILE PHOTO: NEAL WILDING

**TAKING YOUR BUMPS** After an up-and-down season, the Pandas are seeking redemption.

### Third-seeded Pandas hope to avenge last year's loss to Calgary

PAUL OWEN  
Sports Writer

Last March, the Pandas volleyball team bowed out to the Calgary Dinos in the CIS championship game. This weekend, the Pandas hope their game doesn't go south as they head east to Saskatoon and a shot at redemption.

"[Last year's loss] has been an ever-present energy around the team—to put ourselves back in a position to have another shot at the championship," said Alberta head coach Laurie Eisler. "I think that's been a real motivating factor for the team—we don't talk about it that much anymore—but it gives us the experience of knowing what the challenges of playing in that final match are."

While they may be avoiding the subject of last year's championship game, the third-seeded Pandas won't be able to avoid the University of Western Ontario Mustangs (18-1), their first-round opponent today.

"We open against Western, who went through Ontario pretty unscathed. We haven't seen them for four years or so, so it's an unknown entity for us, which is always a challenge," said Eisler.

Should Alberta beat Western and make it to the semifinals tomorrow, Eisler expects to be up against the colourfully-monikered Sherbrooke Vert et Or, who are heavy favourites against Dalhousie. The second-seeded Vert et Or have two national team members on their roster in centre Mélissa Raymond and libero Annie Lévesque. Olympic beach volleyball quarter-finalist Annie Martin also starts for the Québec champions.

"Sherbrooke, in a lot of people's minds, are the pre-tournament favourites. They are an

experienced team, an older team, and the core of that team from the championship two years ago," said Eisler, whose Pandas beat Sherbrooke in straight sets during their pre-season Québec tour in October.

A return trip to the finals would find Alberta facing some more familiar competition. Calgary, Laval, UBC and host Saskatchewan occupy the other half of the bracket, teams that the Pandas have played at least twice each this season. Despite being swept by both the Dinos and T-Birds in the regular season, Eisler isn't worried about them.

**"We have the experience of being in the semifinals the last two years and the finals last year, and you can't train experience..."**

PANDAS HEAD COACH LAURIE EISLER

"Nobody worries me. When you talk about the upper group, not much separates them. They all are talented in different ways with different strengths and weaknesses. Our focus is going to be to bring as close to the level of play as we did at times this past weekend [at the Canada West Championship] and the weekend prior in Winnipeg. We want to fight off the regression under pressure," she said. "We have the experience of being in the semifinals the last two years and the finals last year, and you can't train experience; you have to experience it. We can't say we don't know anymore because we do know, and now we have to go get it."

# Hoops Bears hope to clinch nationals berth

Surprise hosts of conference Final Four will open with a semifinale grudge match against the Brandon Bobcats

CHRIS O'LEARY  
Sports Writer

In terms of hardwood drama, Spike Lee himself couldn't have penned a better script: the underdog team suffers a controversial loss on the road to a nationally-ranked opponent; undaunted, the underdog overcomes a number of improbable obstacles to be in a position where they are one win away from surprising the country and qualifying for nationals—if they can beat the team that caused them so much grief in the first place.

The Golden Bears basketball team will host the Canada West Final Four this weekend in the Main Gym, and in a turn of events fit for Hollywood, their opponents in Friday night's semifinale will be the Brandon Bobcats. The same team that defeated the Bears 77-76 on 30 January, thanks to a Scott Gordon basket that never made its way to the scoreboard, will come to the Main Gym for what promises to be a heated battle between two teams desperate to earn one of three spots in the CIS Final 10 that will be held in Halifax later this month.

"It's kind of ironic that we get [to play] them again. There's going to be a lot of excitement for that game, especially for us," said Bears guard Dean Whalen. "I mean, that [loss in Brandon] cost us possibly a first- or second-place finish at the end of the year. We want to beat them pretty bad, and I'm glad we have that kind of motivation going into the first game like that."

Although the Bears will be coming into the game with a chip on their shoulder, the Bobcats may be coming in with a chip just as big. The Brandon press has been vocal in recent weeks regarding the treatment that

the Bobcats received from CIS, Canada West and members of the Bears themselves after the scoring error that cost the Bears the win. Brandon Sun writer David Larkins suggested on 4 February that Alberta received preferential treatment from CIS officials who were aware that Bears' forward Scott Gordon cursed at the Brandon scorekeeper, and said that had a Brandon player done the same, he would have been reprimanded severely for it.

However, Bears guard Mike Melnychuk brushes the idea of Brandon feeling disrespected aside.

"I think that's just the way Brandon is," he said. "People love to hate Brandon. It's that one team where everyone can point fingers and say, 'Yeah, this program, they're bringing in guys from all over; it's an easy school to get into academically.' People blow it up that way."

Melnichuk also suggested that one media outlet may not represent how the Bobcats themselves feel.

"I think the Brandon media likes to blow things out of proportion, because it kind of puts them on the map," he said. "When Brandon comes to town everybody wants to see them and I think that's why—because the media there takes a lot of pride in their team because there's not a lot in their city other than their hockey team. They're a town that really backs their squad, and they don't want people pointing their fingers at them."

All chirped shoulders aside, both teams will need to be ready to play when the ball goes up on Friday at 8pm in the Main Gym. The Bears are peaking at the perfect time of the season, and Brandon should be hungry to move past the asterisk that currently sits next to their most recent victory over the Bears.

The winner of Friday's game will move on to the conference gold-medal match on Saturday at 8pm against the winner of Friday's other semifinale, between the Regina Cougars and Victoria Vikes at 6pm. The losers of the two games will meet in the bronze-medal game on Saturday at 6pm. All games will take place in the Main Gym.



FILE PHOTO: NEAL WILDING

TAKE YOUR BEST SHOT Golden Bears guard Dean Whalen.

## Wrestling

The Golden Bears and Pandas travel to Brock University in St. Catharines, Ontario this weekend for the CIS championship. Three Pandas and eight Bears qualified for the meet.

The Pandas are ranked fourth in the country, though with only three wrestlers competing they won't pose much of a challenge for the podium. However, the three who are there could all easily win medals. Erica Sharp (53kg), making her fifth and final appearance at nationals, has won gold in all four previous appearances, while Heidi Kulak (65kg) has posted a stellar 31-1 record this season. Both Sharp and Kulak won Canada West gold two weeks ago. Jacyln Hedges (80kg), the other Panda making the trip, won bronze at last year's nationals.

The Bears, meanwhile, are ranked eighth in the country, but have high hopes of finishing at least in the top six. They'll be led by Anthony Kulak (54kg). Last year Kulak was the only Bear at nationals who failed to win a medal, but this year was the team's sole gold medalist at the Canada West finals, and was named male wrestler of the year for the conference. Janet Wall (72kg), a bronze medalist last year, should also mount a challenge.

## Men's Basketball

Despite missing the first half of the season while recovering from a knee injury, Golden Bears post Phil Sudol was named a second-team Canada West all-star yesterday. Sudol averaged 16.3 points and 6.2 rebounds in ten regular season games, and had a shooting percentage of 67.3, all of which were team highs. No other Bears made the conference awards list.

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# Calgary students vote for fee increase to save 14 Dinos teams

CAMILIN CRAWSHAW  
News Editor

A recent plebiscite at the University of Calgary has revealed that a majority of students support a dedicated fee increase which could prevent the loss of numerous Dinos sports teams.

Earlier this year, the U of C athletics department became concerned that it might need to cut 14 of the 22 existing Dinos teams due to insufficient funding. But during the U of C Students' Union elections 15-17 February, 52 per cent of students voted in support of a \$6 increase to the current Dinos athletics fee in order to prevent the loss of teams.

"Obviously if we were to lose 14 teams, that would be pretty devastating to the athletics department and to the reputation of the school," said U of C SU President Bryan West.

"But I think, more or less, that has been averted."

Since a plebiscite is simply an indication of student support and is not binding, Dinos supporters must now wait to see whether the University's Board of Governors chooses to increase the student fee during the University's annual budgeting process, which will conclude on 22 April.

If the proposal is passed, the Dinos athletics fee for part- and full-time students will be raised to \$39.50 per

semester; currently, full-time students pay \$33.50, while part-time students pay \$16.75. The large increase for part-time students has been justified on the basis that they receive the same benefits in terms of admission to Dinos events as full-time students.

**"Certainly having the students show their support for Dinos athletics by supporting a fee increase, in a time when fee increases are not desirable in any situation, is really a very happy situation for Dinos athletics."**

DON WILSON,  
U OF C ATHLETICS DIRECTOR

According to U of C athletics director Don Wilson, Dinos athletics is no stranger to financial woes.

"It's always a never-ending battle to ensure that we have enough money to balance the budgets," he said.

However, Wilson is optimistic about the recent display of student support for the Dinos.

"Certainly having the students

show their support for Dinos athletics by supporting a fee increase, in a time when fee increases are not desirable in any situation, is really a very happy occasion for Dinos athletics," he said.

"You're always wondering whether your athletics teams are supported and deemed to be worthwhile, and I guess the answer to that is that the students voted that they were. So that's very good for us, and bodes well for the support of students and the University towards Dinos athletics."

Because of the plebiscite, Wilson thinks it's likely that the fee increase will pass, and the 14 teams will not be cut.

"At this point in time, given the support of the students and the University, I guess I could say it's not even an issue," he said.

However, West argued that while student support for the Dinos is a positive thing, the likelihood of the U of C losing 14 teams without this funding was questionable.

"The idea of 14 teams has always been a controversial one because no one truly believes that the University would drop that many teams," he said.

"What probably would have happened if the plebiscite had not passed, is that some teams would have been cut and that the University would have had to find funding for it at some other level."

# Four CIS championships to return to TSN

JAKE TROUGHTON  
Sports Editor

For a while it looked like CIS fans would have to travel to see this year's national championships, but an agreement made in February has ensured that four of the events will return to TSN's airwaves this month.

The network will broadcast the men's and women's basketball championships as well as men's volleyball and hockey. But unlike in previous years, when TSN paid CIS rights fees to broadcast the events, this year CIS will pay to offset some of TSN's production costs. Last month, CIS was able to secure sufficient revenue to do so, from various sources including sponsors, donors, championship hosts and national sport organizations.

"It was very important to get it done," said CIS Director of Marketing Peter Metzulas. "We just put the whole pile together, and TSN also contributed some money. At the end of the day it was just a huge puzzle we were able to put together."

Wrestling and track and field national events will not be broadcast; as well, unlike last year neither the women's volleyball nor women's hockey finals will be shown, due to scheduling conflicts. The latter falls on the same day as the Esso Women's National Hockey Championship, which TSN will be broadcasting, as well as the CIS women's basketball final. However, CIS is

looking into the possibility of showing those finals on the web, an idea that was recently successfully piloted with a men's basketball game between Carleton and Ottawa.

"We're looking at webcasting maybe four of those games," said Metzulas. "We piloted a game a couple of weeks ago, and it worked out okay. The quality was good and the numbers were actually not bad."

**"We have a great opportunity to create awareness for our product, which I believe is one of the best ones around."**

PETER METZULAS,  
CIS DIRECTOR OF MARKETING

According to Metzulas, CIS had especially hoped to get the women's volleyball final on TSN, but the host Saskatchewan Huskies were unable to move the start time to avoid a scheduling conflict.

"We actually really wanted to do that game; it was one of the key factors from a donor's point of view, but because of conflicts, we couldn't," said Metzulas. "We could have put the game on tape delay, but when you're looking at the cost involved in hosting this one

championship, it's pretty expensive, and to have a game tape delayed when you're spending over \$40 000 for one game, it becomes very costly."

According to Metzulas, CIS is planning to arrange for a televised "game of the week" throughout the season next year—beginning with football in the fall, followed by a variety of sports after football season—and hopes that televising this year's championships will help make that endeavour a success.

"We have confirmation of revenues available for that, so really what we're looking for is this [year's broadcasts] to become the foundation upon which we build our program," he said. "If we didn't have events this year, we would probably be in a little bit of trouble next year."

While in most years Canadian sports fans would be distracted by the final stretch of the NHL regular season in March, Metzulas argued that due to the NHL lockout there's a real opportunity for CIS to capture a strong viewing audience.

"I honestly believe that our university events are very exciting," he said. "They're good competitions, they're exciting people, there's passion in the games, and from my perspective it is an excellent viewing property. I'm hoping that we're able to sell that. We have a great opportunity to create good awareness for our product, which I believe is one of the best ones around."



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ON A MISSION The Bears have a host berth in the national championship, but they'd still like to earn their way there. FILE PHOTO: ANDREW LUIU

## Hockey Bears ready to fight off Dinos in Mountain Division final

JAKE TROUGHTON  
Sports Editor

When they come to Clare Drake Arena this weekend for the Mountain Division hockey final, the Calgary Dinos will try to fire themselves up with memories of a big win over the Golden Bears last month—but the Bears will have none of that.

The last time the Dinos and Bears met, on 5 February in Calgary, the Dinos snapped a 45-game winless streak against top-ranked Alberta with a 6-2 win. That might give Calgary a bit of extra confidence heading into this weekend's best-of-three series, but Bears head coach Bob Daum said that that doesn't concern him.

"There's a couple of different ways to look at it," he said. "They beat us last game; when was the last time they beat us here? They'll want to look at it as they beat us last game, but we can just say, 'Well, that was in their building, and they haven't beaten us here for six years.' I'm sure they're going to use that [win] as a rallying point for their team, and that's real good for them."

Bears defenseman Jeff Zorn, who last week became the only player in history to be named a Canada West first-team all-star four times, agreed that while the Dinos will try to build on last month's win, the home squad won't allow that game to affect how they approach this weekend.

"Of course they're going to use that as a boost," he said. "But as far as we're going to approach the game ... we respect them, and we've respected them for as long as I've been here. Nothing's changed in that regard."

Another area in which the Dinos might appear to have a motivational advantage is in the quest for a national championship berth. While the Bears, who will host the championship from 24-28 March at Clare Drake Arena and Rexall Place, have an automatic berth in the tournament, the Dinos are trying to secure one of Canada West's two remaining spots, which they can do by upsetting the Bears this weekend.

That means the Dinos will come to town with extra intensity, but Daum seemed confident that the Bears will be able to match Calgary's emotion.

"You could have asked that question at the beginning of the season: 'Are you just going to float through the season because you have a host berth?' Well, did we do that? No. So I anticipate that we'll take the same approach heading into the playoffs."

Zorn suggested that the national tournament gives the Bears reason enough to be motivated even though their spot is guaranteed.

"Our goal is to win Canada West and earn our way to nationals just like we have every other year," he said. "We have to get tuned up and ready to play, because if we're not playing our best hockey, we know we're not going to have a lot of success at nationals."

Elsewhere in men's hockey action, the Saskatchewan Huskies will host the Manitoba Bisons in the Great Plains Division final. The winner of that series will advance to the conference final and clinch a national championship berth. If the Bears win their series, the loser will host the Dinos in a wild-card series for the final spot at nationals, but if Calgary wins, the loser will be eliminated from contention.

## Pandas' Collins-Pye makes Team Canada

JAKE TROUGHTON  
Sports Editor

For the second year in a row, all-star Pandas defender Delaney Collins-Pye has been named to the Canadian national women's team roster for the world championships.

Collins-Pye, who scored the insurance goal in a 2-0 win over the United States in the gold-medal game at last year's championship, will join the national team later in the month following the CIS women's hockey championship 10-13 March in Montreal, where she'll try to help lead the Pandas to their fourth consecutive national title.

She had put herself in good position to make the team with a strong showing at a January training camp, as well as her all-star season with the Pandas, but she admitted that nerves had been weighing heavily on her leading up to Monday's announcement of the roster. Making the 20-player team virtually ensures that she'll be one of the 25-30 players chosen to centralize in Calgary next fall in preparation for the 2006 Olympics.

"I was really nervous, because it's important to make this year's team and get ready for centralization for the Olympics next year," she said. "It's a

step towards the ultimate goal. This world championship is obviously very important, but there's a bigger picture, and I want to keep getting better and keep helping the team win and do whatever I can to make the Olympic team as well."

Collins-Pye has taken an unusual path to the national team. After playing for the team briefly in 2001, she fell off the roster until last year, after she'd joined the Pandas, becoming the only CIS star to make the team. Prior to that, she played for the Calgary Oval X-Treme, arguably the best women's club team in the world—six members of the national team play for them—and certainly a better place to gain national team exposure than the U of A.

"It was a really difficult decision to come here," said Collins-Pye, who is pursuing a degree in physical education and recreation. "I felt that I was maybe not putting myself in the best position in terms of getting seen for the national team. But it was a nice balance between playing hockey and finishing my degree, and it worked out."

Pandas head coach Howie Draper was delighted by the news that Collins-Pye would again skate with Team Canada, noting that it vindicates her decision to join the Pandas in the first place.

"She deserves it. She's worked hard for any opportunity that she gets to play for the national team," said Draper. "Some people might think that the route she's taken wasn't conducive to maintaining that spot, but she's proven them wrong."

"There's a little bit of an adjustment that you have to make when you go from [the X-Treme to university play], and I think that she's dealt with it very well, and in some ways maybe it's been better for her having to make that adjustment."

Pandas assistant coach Dave Marcynishyn also praised Collins-Pye, noting in particular her strong defensive play in a pair of tight wins over the Manitoba Bisons last weekend.

"What she brings to this team is that patience and maturity with the puck," he said. "She has an extreme amount of skill, and she deserves to represent our country on the national team."

This year's world championship will be held 2-9 April in Linköping, Sweden, with Canada's first game scheduled for 3 April against Kazakhstan. Though they've been very even with the United States overall, Canada has lost only one game in world championship history and has won all eight previous tournaments. All of Canada's games will be broadcast by TSN.

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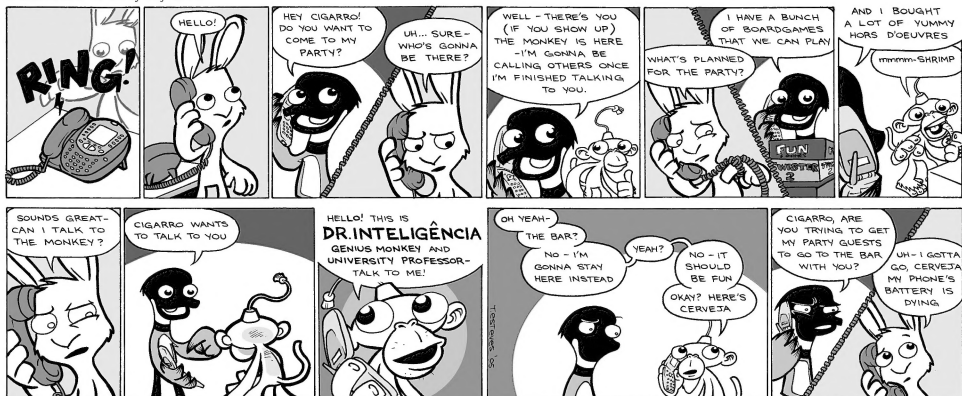
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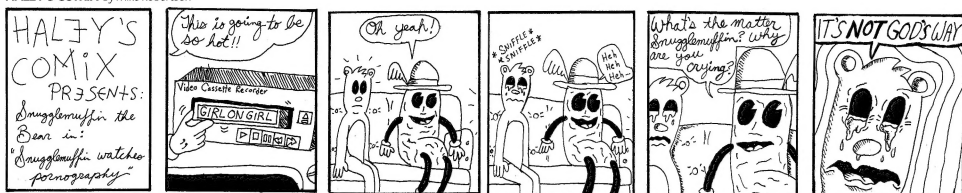
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